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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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DEATHS.

Killed by the rebels at "Hoonim," South Formosa, on the 28th June, 1896, Mr. D. D. OLLIA, formerly of D. D. Ollia & Co., of Hongkong, Amoy, Foochow, Tamsui, Taiwanfoo, and late of Dinshaw & Co., of Hongkong and Taiwanfoo. Deeply regretted by a large circle of friends and relations and the whole of the Parsee Community of Hongkong and China. Bombay and Surat papers please copy.

[1866]

At the Government Civil Hospital on the 4th inst., NICHOLAS NOLAN, Head Turnkey at Victoria Gaol, aged 55. For thirty-five years in the Government Service.

[1559]

On the 6th instant, at Mountain View, The Peak, WILHELMINE MARGARETE, aged 25 years, the dearly beloved wife of Richard MARTEN.

[1565]

At Shanghai, on the 27th June, 1896, ALEXANDER WINGYETT HUNT, of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, aged 24 years.

At 10, Peking Road, Shanghai, on the 27th June, 1896, FREDERICK HAYLEY BELL, aged 63 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 5th June arrived, per M. M. steamer *Salazie*, on the 6th July (31 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Fung Poong, the Wanchai murderer, was executed in Victoria Gaol on the 7th July.

The *China Gazette* states that a French geologist at the request of native merchants is inspecting coal deposits in Szechuen Province.

Reports have been received of a disturbance at Chuchoufu, in the north-west of Kiangsu, in which a Roman Catholic priest is said to have been killed.

H. E. Count Cassini has been granted leave of absence from his present post as Minister for Russia in Peking, and proposes to leave in September, going overland.—*Mercury*.

Mr. D. D. Ollia, a Parsee merchant, has been killed by rebels at Hoonim, the centre of the camphor industry in Formosa. Great excitement prevails amongst the foreigners at Anping and Tainanfu, whose losses through the depredations of the rebels at Hoonim are likely to be considerable. The rebellion is said to have been provoked by the cruelties practised by the Japanese officials.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 17th June publishes a memorial from H.E. Sung Fan, the Governor of Yunnan, the substance of which is as follows:—In accordance with a special decree dated 25th February, 1896, authorizing the local authorities at Yunnan to take measures to open mines, Your Memorialist has sent some deputies, experienced in geology, in various directions to survey the mines where the work had been stopped in order to reopen them. In the meantime steps are being taken to collect the capital. It has been decided that no machinery is to be used and no foreigners to be engaged in these mining works as a matter of economy. As soon as the survey is completed Your Memorialist will lay before Your Majesty the full particulars and regulations concerning the undertaking.—*Approved*.

Dr. Yersin, whose discovery of a cure for bubonic plague was reported in our last issue, left by the *Empress of India* for Amoy. We understand that the medical authorities of Hongkong were anxious to afford Dr. Yersin every facility for testing his remedy, but at the time he arrived from Saigon there did not happen to be a plague case in hospital except convalescents, and before the next case was brought in he had left for Canton. Now he has gone to Amoy, and before he returns we hope plague will have disappeared from the colony altogether, but from a scientific point of view it will be regrettable if Dr. Yersin has no opportunity of applying his remedy in Hongkong; where the tests could be conducted under conditions much better calculated to exclude all possibility of error than can be the case at Amoy or Canton.

A series of articles on the cotton industry in Tonkin has recently appeared in the *Indo-Chine Francaise*. One of the promoters of the mill established at Hanoi recently came out from France to investigate for himself the difficulties encountered by the enterprise. These difficulties arise principally from the small production of the raw material in the country and the irregularity of the supply in the local markets. To meet this the capitalist in question made propositions to the Government for the encouragement of the cultivation of cotton by the natives, but being met with a refusal nothing remained for him but to take the mail steamer back to France. The articles go on to show that the soil of Indo-China is eminently suitable for the cotton plant, and it is argued that the Government should take steps to encourage its cultivation. The suitability of the soil is demonstrated by the fact that in some provinces cotton is grown and shipped to Hongkong, Shanghai, or Japan, but the method of cultivation is defective and the crops are consequently coarse and poor.

The acquisition of Messrs. Fergusson & Co.'s foreshore at Chefoo has, we (*N. C. Daily News*) believe, been finally frustrated by the firmness of the Foreign Office and Sir Claude MacDonald.

The Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited, has decided upon a scheme of reconstruction under which each shareholder will receive one new share of \$5 paid up and \$2.50 on call in exchange for one present share of \$10 paid up, the capital of the new Company being \$75,000 divided into 10,000 shares of \$7.50 each instead of 10,000 shares of \$10 each as in the present Company.

We (*Peking and Tientsin Times*) learn from Peking that the reorganized Reform Club is situated at the Hu Fang-chiao, outside the Front Gate, and that the residence formerly occupied is not used. This club is now under the control of H.E. Sun Chia-nie. From what we hear, the club is now a Government Institute, the members of it being bound by official rules and unable to reform as liberally as they were before, and which, of course, is contrary to the original object of its establishment.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—The personnel of the German Legation at Peking is being almost entirely changed, and there has been much speculation as to the reason for this unexpected revolution. Baron Schenck zu Schweinsberg, the Minister, has been recalled; a new Secretary of Legation has gone up to replace Baron Speck von Sternburg; and Baron von der Goltz has been sent to Canton in charge of the Consulate there. The leading Austrian journal, the *Neue Freie Presse*, has the following very interesting remarks on this subject in its issue of the 8th May:—"It is learnt by wire that the German Envoy to Morocco, Baron Heyking before taking up his post received the appointment as Minister to Peking. Great political importance is attached to this change. It had long been a matter of surprise that the present German Minister to China kept himself so much in the background in the discussion of the Far Eastern Question, and that in Berlin the advice of the former Envoy to Peking, Herr von Brandt, should have been so constantly sought. The explanation of this is that Herr von Brandt was in Germany when the question reached an acute phase, and that there was no one in Germany, and perhaps in all Europe, better acquainted with the state of affairs in Peking, from both their political and economic points of view. Baron Heyking has never previously been in the Far East, but he is said to take with him to his new post—besides a thorough acquaintance with the economic situation in China and a certain degree of acuteness in business matters, which he has already displayed at Chicago, Valparaiso, Calcutta, and lastly Cairo—a complete knowledge of the Russian language and relations, as he was a Russian subject before entering the German diplomatic service. In view of the part which has fallen to Russia since the recent occurrences in the Far East, and in view of the importance to German export trade of the opening of the enormous Chinese market, the utmost demands will be made on the German representation in the Far East, and to fulfil those demands Baron Heyking, to judge by his former record, seems to be the right man in the right place."

HINDRANCES TO TRADE IN CHINA.

The causes operating to check trade in China are very clearly set out by Mr. Consul ALLEN, in his able and valuable report on the trade of Foochow for 1895. This is one of the ports concerning which it may be truly written: Ichabod, the glory has departed. The tea trade, its great staple in former days, has been practically killed, partly by the competition of the teas of India and Ceylon, and partly by the heavy lekin and export dues imposed upon it by the provincial government. Mr. ALLEN tells us that the lekin duty on tea is nominally Tls. 2.20, but additions bring it up to Tls. 2.80. Taking the value of tea as Tls. 15 per picul, the export duty and lekin combined make a total of Tls. 5.30, or about 35 per cent. *ad valorem* before it leaves China. No wonder the Fukien leaf cannot compete with the free teas of India and Ceylon, which, moreover, have less freight to pay, owing to closer contiguity to the English markets. There might still be a small chance for the Fukien teas, however, if they could be brought down from the interior by foreigners under transit pass, as by this means they could be delivered in the port at a cost of Tls. 1.25 per picul. But the native dealers and growers are, Mr. ALLEN says, afraid of official opposition, and European exporters find it impossible to make the necessary arrangements. It therefore comes to this, that the Chinese officials, through their extortions, have destroyed one of the largest items of trade with foreign countries. This, too, in spite of the fact that Foochow tea is in high favour with consumers on account of its delicate flavour and freedom from the astringent and acrid properties of most of the tea produced in the Spicy Island and in Northern India. The question of price stands in the way at an important juncture in the history of the tea trade, for both in Great Britain and in Australian colonies it is beginning to be recognised that the Chinese teas are far less prejudicial to health than their modern rivals, and if they could be laid down in those markets at anything near the price of the latter they would probably again come into large demand and possibly recover something like their former position. But the Chinese official, ever blind to his own true interests and wholly indifferent to those of his country, has been content to kill the goose in order to get at the golden eggs. Age cannot bring him wisdom, and experience cannot teach him; he is hopelessly impervious to reason and common sense, and his country cannot prosper while he remains to cumber the ground, to crush the vitality from trade, and be the death of all enterprise.

How crushing in its effect the fiscal system—if it can be called a system—in China is to the people is well shown by Mr. ALLEN. The cost of collection of the lekin tax is estimated to be some 70 per cent. of the total amount realised, and although, as the Consul says, that is no doubt an exaggeration, yet the fact of its being made shows how disproportionate the cost of collection must be. It is not only that the plan of farming taxes is a rotten and vicious one in itself, but it is, both in Fukien and in the Two Kwang, aggravated by the fact that there are various farmers competing with one another. In Foochow, Mr. ALLEN tells us, there are four separate establishments levying taxes on merchandise, each one competing with the others and looking on the revenue collected by them as a loss to itself. There are the Maritime Customs, levying duties on all

goods imported or exported in foreign bottoms or in Chinese steamers; the Native Customs, who levy duties on junk-borne cargo; the Lekin Office, originally erected to collect a temporary war tax, but which remains a sort of universal excise duty from which nothing is exempt; and the Lo Ti Shui Office, which may be called the octroi office, and levies duties on all goods brought into Foochow by road. Concerning the lekin tax, Mr. ALLEN writes:—"It is only peaceably disposed people like the Chinese who would submit to a tax which must be almost as burdensome as the tax of the tenth penny imposed by ALVA on the inhabitants of the Low Countries. Even in China the imposition of lekin occasionally leads to riots." There is no doubt it would cause open rebellion if only the effect of this taxation were fully understood by the people. They have neither the discrimination to see nor the time to learn that the enforcement of these excessive taxes is stifling the life from trade and rendering the struggle for existence doubly severe to the agriculturist, the trader, and the labourer. If once educated to recognise this fact, the reign of the mandarin would speedily be cut short, for the average Chinaman, though he will stand a good deal of legislation for his regulation and control, is extremely vulnerable when it touches his purse.

Meantime, while these various taxes are pressing cruelly on the Chinese people, they are also seriously affecting foreign trade with China. For more than a quarter of a century we have patiently submitted to a virtual denial of one of the most important privileges conceded by the Treaty of Tientsin, namely, the right to trade with the interior by transit pass. Volumes of reports, endless letters of complaint, and despatches innumerable have been written on the subject, which has also, time after time, been pressed on the attention of the Tsung-li Yamen by successive Ministers; but although the latter have had right and justice on their side and the text of the Treaty to appeal to, the privilege has unfailingly been rendered a dead letter in South China, and sufficient provocation for another war afforded. But Great Britain, with characteristic long-suffering, has refrained from an appeal to that last arbiter the sword, and the Chinese officials have mocked and flouted her for her forbearance. There are signs that this forbearance has some limits. Negotiations are now in progress for the opening up of the interior waters of South China to foreign trade, and for the unrestricted exercise of the right to trade under transit pass. Naturally these negotiations will be tardy—everything connected with China must be slow—but we sincerely hope that they will be effective for the purpose this time. British subjects have been cheated out of some of their trading privileges in China for twenty-six years, and it will be only reasonable that some compensation should be made for this wrong. Fortunately the Government of Lord SALISBURY has the nation at its back in this matter: the great mercantile bodies throughout the kingdom are eager to see China brought to book; and there is no lack, either of evidence of bad faith on the part of the Chinese Government, or of hardships inflicted on British traders in China. The case is complete in every detail; the bill presented to China should be a heavy one, and ought to be pressed to a conclusion with all reasonable expedition. The rotten plea of the ill-health of the Chinese Minister was allowed to defer the negotiations for many months, and even to this day the simple

claim for the loss of the steamer *Kowshing* has not been settled, so it is to be feared that two or three years more may yet elapse before we obtain justice. In the meantime it would be rather a curious commentary on our rather assinine patience if another more energetic Power were to demolish the house of cards which the Peking Government.

THE GOVERNOR AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S DESPATCH.

(5th July.)

His Excellency the Governor would have treated the community with more consideration had he made public the decision of the Secretary of State with reference to the constitution of the Legislative Council as soon as the despatch reached him. It appears that the despatch was received by the last English mail, but it was not intended that the fact should be made known until the meeting of the Council on Wednesday next. It is difficult to keep a secret in Hongkong, however, and this particular secret has by some means leaked out. Reuter's telegram stating that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN had addressed a despatch to the Governor conveying his decision concerning the creation of additional unofficial members of Council was dated the 4th June, and we were ourselves under the impression that the despatch would leave London by the mail of the 5th June, for Mr. CHAMBERLAIN does not appear to be punctilious about not disclosing the contents of despatches before they are sent off, as witness his famous Transvaal despatches. It would seem, however, that the despatch had been posted by the previous English mail, and that the information was communicated to the home press after it had left. Whether that information was confined merely to the circumstance that a despatch on the subject had been addressed to the Governor, or whether it extended to the contents of the despatch, we have no means of knowing, but the question will be set at rest by the arrival of the French mail of the 5th June this evening or to-morrow morning. It will be rather singular if the community first learns the nature of the Secretary of State's despatch through the medium of the home papers, instead of through the proper channel, namely, His Excellency the Governor. But whether the mail brings us this intelligence or not, we think it is on every ground to be regretted that His Excellency should have unnecessarily withheld the despatch. The community is vitally interested in the matter, and we fail to see what purpose His Excellency can have in view in not letting it know at once what the decision is, now that he is himself in possession of it. The publication is entirely within his own discretion, for he is bound by no hard and fast rules. As a matter of courtesy the members of Council ought to be the first to whom the despatch is made known, but they would have been well content if it had been circulated to them half an hour before being sent to the newspapers. As to the terms of the despatch, if report speaks truly, they are not likely to be agreeable to the community. The appointment of the General to the Council is in itself a wise and proper step, especially now that the Officer commanding the Garrison is always to act as *locum tenens* for the Governor when the latter is absent, but that is a question entirely apart from the one on which the Secretary of State's decision is so anxiously awaited, namely, whether we are to have an unofficial majority on the Legis-

lative Council. According to the report in circulation, in order to keep the relative voting strength of the official and unofficial sides at its present standard an additional Chinese member is to be appointed as a counterpoise to the appointment of the General on the official side, and that is the whole sum and substance of the matter. If no further concession than that is made it will be a great disappointment to the community, but until the actual terms of the despatch are known further comment would be useless.

[The following is the *communiqué* addressed to the home papers with reference to the Secretary of State's despatch on the constitution of the Legislative Council:—"Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., having called the attention of the Colonial Secretary to the strong feeling exhibited at Hongkong in favour of the appointment of additional unofficial members of the Legislative Council, and to an alleged undertaking by Lord Ripon on the subject, Mr. Chamberlain has replied, stating that he has just addressed a despatch to the Governor of Hongkong, conveying his decision, which will be published by his Excellency." The despatch itself is not published. In another column we publish Mr. Henniker Heaton's letter to the Hon. T. H. Whitehead and the letter received by him from Mr. Chamberlain's Secretary.]

LI HUNG-CHANG AND THE RELATIONS BETWEEN RUSSIA AND CHINA.

It would appear, from telegrams published in American papers—not always too reliable, by the way—that the statement that LI HUNG-CHANG had agreed, on behalf of China, to allow a Russian railway to be laid through Manchuria to the coast, originated with the Berlin correspondent of the *Standard*. The *Standard* is, on the whole, a thoroughly reliable journal; but, like the mighty *Times*, it may sometimes be caught napping or be misled by correspondents. The *Standard's* correspondent does not say, however, that the Chinese Special Ambassador denied the conclusion of a treaty with Russia; that is a statement made by others. What he says is:—"It is reported that LI HUNG-CHANG has concluded negotiations 'with Russia by which, for the concession of a Russian railway through Manchuria, 'Russia consents to China nearly doubling 'the import duties at treaty ports.'" This statement is made in a later telegram than the one which declares that LI HUNG-CHANG had denied that any treaty had been concluded with Russia. Whether or not the *Standard's* correspondent is to be relied upon remains to be seen. It is quite possible that he may have obtained the information from a member of his Chinese Excellency's suite, who had no motive for concealing facts. The Chinaman will sometimes tell the truth if there is no particular reason for bottling it up. In fact, if he is the possessor of news, the ordinary Chinaman generally is very willing to part with it, unless he believes it to be a marketable commodity. And that is what most of them have yet to discover.

We do not believe, however, that the latter portion of the statement is correct. It would be such a very high handed proceeding for Russia to take, to concede to China the right to double her tariff on foreign goods, without consulting any of the Treaty Powers, that we may well hesitate to credit such a report. Russia herself, it is true, would probably care very little whether the duties levied on imports and exports were raised or not, for her trade with China is comparatively small; but her late allies in bluffing Japan for the benefit of China (France and Germany) would cer-

tainly regard it as an ill requital of their good offices on that occasion. Of course the Russian Government might rejoin that this concession could only take effect when the other Treaty Powers agreed to it; but nevertheless it would have opened the way to a very extensive concession which China would be in no hurry to reciprocate by conceding other advantages. Whether or not Russia has agreed to make any compensating concession, however, it is, we believe, true that permission has been obtained for the Trans-Siberian Railway to be carried through Manchuria to the coast. This will involve the concession of a port, if not of the country through which the line runs. If Russia has succeeded in obtaining this, from her point of view, very necessary concession, Great Britain, we believe, will not have a word to say against it. That Russia should have an open port on the Pacific is a legitimate ambition, which should not be obstructed, so long as she does not aspire to play the rôle of the dog in the manger. The establishment by her of a great naval and military stronghold on the Pacific will of course at the same time entail upon the British Government the necessity of rendering Hongkong absolutely secure from attack and probably of acquiring another naval station in the vicinity of Shanghai. In short, not to mince matters, it will be imperative, if England is to maintain her position in these seas, to widen the boundaries of this colony as recently proposed, and to demand from China the retrocession to us of Chusan. The time has come for both these demands to be put forward, and it is to be hoped that there will be no miserable hesitation at the Foreign Office in formulating them.

A COMMERCIAL FRAUD IN TONKIN.

A most shameful fraud is disclosed in an engagingly frank manner by the *Indo-Chine Française*, the writer apparently being quite unconscious of any sense of wrong in the matter. Our contemporary has been publishing a series of articles on the cotton industry in Indo-China, and in the course of the argument the preference of the native for well known chops is referred to. "It is necessary," says the writer, "to support the mills established in Tonkin 'in order that our nationals may be able to 'compete advantageously with foreign 'goods, the sale of which is so considerable in all the markets in our 'possession. We recollect trials made by 'some of our compatriots to sell to the 'Annamites cotton yarn of French origin. 'The natives recognised the superiority of 'the French thread, but even at the same 'price they would not buy it. They were 'accustomed to use English cotton of so 'many hanks to the kilogramme and with 'a certain mark on the package and they 'would have no other. They were shown 'that the French thread was whiter, more 'solid, that the weight of the packages was 'the same. They looked only at the mark 'and asked for English yarn No. 20, '30, or 40. This spirit of routine amongst 'them had so little reason that one of our 'friends having several bales of French 'yarn in his godowns and being unable 'to get rid of them except by buying 'English labels, removing the French ones, 'and affixing the English ones, did so, and 'the goods were then eagerly sought after.' We should not like to suppose that frauds of this kind were common amongst our French neighbours, nor is it very likely, for the Frenchman's difficulty is that

he is unable to produce goods to compete in price with those of other countries, and there is no advantage to be gained by affixing fraudulent marks to goods which cannot be sold for the same price as the goods to which the mark properly belongs. Nevertheless, the circumstance reminds us of the fact that British interests in Tonkin are entirely unrepresented and unprotected, although the import trade consists very largely of British goods. There are no British merchants in the country, and no British Consul is maintained there. A Consul would certainly have little regular-consular work to do, with none of his nationals to claim his attention and very rarely the entry of a British ship to take note of, but as a gatherer of commercial information such an officer might render valuable service and might perhaps even pave the way for the establishment of British firms. At all events he would be able to keep merchants and manufacturers informed of the progress of the country, its requirements, the treatment accorded to British goods, and any abuses that might spring up and call for redress.

PERMANENCY OF CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS.

In the communication addressed by the Chinkiang Chamber of Commerce to Mr. BYRON BRENNAN upon matters affecting British trade in China there is one recommendation made the wisdom of which is, we think, doubtful. The recommendation is that "titular Consuls should be permitted, 'when possible, to remain in their posts 'undisturbed, as thus they can acquire a 'practical and intimate knowledge of local 'trade and the advancement of British 'interests be promoted." Other things being equal, we should say British interests would be more likely to be promoted by a Consul who had experience of the trade of other ports as well as of that at which he may happen to be stationed. It is easy to understand the objections of a port to the removal of a Consul who has identified himself with the interests of the community and has served those interests energetically and well, but taking a more comprehensive view it must be recognised that there are advantages in giving our Consuls a diversified experience and by periodic changes preventing their getting into a rut. In the Colonial Service a Governor's term of office is six years, but perhaps that can hardly be cited as an example in point, as the arrangement is made probably more with a view to the interests of the Service by preventing a block in promotion than with a view to the interests of the colonies. An example more in point is that of the Chinese Foreign Customs Service. Sir ROBERT HART seems to act on the principle of keeping his Commissioners frequently on the move, and that without any reference to the question of promotion. A Commissioner puts in two or three years at one port and then is transferred to another, and it is the same in the junior branches of the Service, so that every member of it has the advantage of becoming acquainted not only with the trade of a particular port but also with the trade of the whole country. In the British Consular Service in China changes also are not infrequent, due to furlough and occasional retirements, and on the whole we are inclined to think these changes must be beneficial to the interests the Consuls are supposed to promote. If in some cases a change may be unwelcome to one port, it will probably be correspondingly welcome and advantageous to another.

Perhaps it might not be desirable to follow the example of the Chinese Customs Service in its very frequent changes, but on the other hand there does not seem to be any substantial reason for straining after permanency, as advocated by the Chinkiang Chamber. The more experience a Consul has the better able will he be to serve the interests of the port at which he happens to be stationed, and experience is to be gained by moving from one port to another.

THE JAPANESE AND THE REBELLION IN FORMOSA.

The rebellion in Formosa, the attack on Hoonim, and the reported murder of a British subject are unpleasant incidents, and ought to rouse the Japanese to the necessity of effectually subjugating the island and putting its affairs in order. If it be the case, as stated by our Formosa correspondent, that the deplorable state of affairs that exists is solely due to the cruelties committed by the Japanese in the country and the ignorance, arrogance, and general misconduct of the officials, the sooner the delinquent officials are replaced by others more sensible of what is required of them the better. The eyes of the world are upon Japan in Formosa and if the new rulers of the island make any conspicuous failure in their administration the consequences may be serious. Unlike the case of the Liaotung peninsula, no opposition was offered to Japan's acquisition of Formosa, but it is not impossible her retention of it may be opposed if she proves herself incompetent to manage it. As it is, she will doubtless be called to strict account for the death of Mr. OLLIA, and if it turn out that that sad event was due to any official neglect suitable restitution will have to be made to the deceased gentleman's representatives. It must not be forgotten, however, that difficulties are almost invariably met with in the settlement of countries acquired by conquest. The suppression of dacoity in Upper Burmah was not accomplished in a day, and in Tonkin, although the French have now been in possession for ten years, piracy is still rife in certain districts. Doubtless there are many restless spirits in Formosa disaffected to the new regime who will take advantage of every opportunity of stirring up sedition and disorder. It behoves Japan, however, to see to it that such opportunities are not needlessly created by official arrogance or misconduct, for her administration will probably be judged more critically than that of any European Power in a new country would be. Japan is, so to speak, on her trial as a colonising power, and it would be altogether unfortunate for her if she made egregious mistakes at the commencement.

THE LOCALISATION OF PLAGUE.

Mr. O. JOHNSON, the Consul at Hoihow, in his report for last year mentions that plague made its appearance there about the end of February and lasted till June, carrying off some five thousand victims. "It is 'curious,'" the Consul adds, "that in the 'prefectural city of Kiungchow, distant only 'about three miles, not a single case was 'reported.'" The same singular circumstance has made itself noted in the visitations of the plague at Hongkong, Canton, and Macao. In 1894, when the disease raged at Canton and Hongkong, it was entirely absent from Macao; in 1895, when Hongkong and Canton escaped with only a few sporadic cases, Macao was visited with

a severe epidemic; and this year again, when the disease has been prevalent at Hongkong and Canton, Macao has escaped. Macao is not so near to Hongkong or Canton as Kiungchow is to Hoihow, but it is in daily communication with both places. The peculiar localisation of the disease, then, is a subject which would probably repay investigation. The same circumstance occurs in connection with cholera, and in the earlier days of sanitary science the authorities were much puzzled to know why the scourge in making its progress through a country should jump over a village or a whole district and why in towns some streets would escape while others in their immediate neighbourhood showed markedly high death rates. Investigation showed that an impure water supply was the condition favouring the activity of the cholera virus, and it is now generally recognised that a place with a good water supply is practically safe from visitations of that disease. What the special condition is that favours the spread of the plague virus has still to be discovered, but the peculiar movements of the disease as regards locality ought to afford some assistance in the investigation.

SUPREME COURT.

2nd July.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR DR. CARRINGTON
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' ORDINANCES 1877 AND 1886 AND IN THE MATTER OF THE YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LIMITED AND REDUCED.

The Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Limited and Reduced, petitioned for confirmation of a resolution passed by the shareholders reducing the capital of the Company from \$130,000 to \$65,000.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Mr. Master, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the Company.

Hon. H. E. Pollock said the petition was presented to the Court on the 25th April and he applied for it to be granted and that the form of minute proposed to be registered be approved by the Court, and for directions under Rule 91 of Ordinance 30 of 1886. The application was made under Section 11 of Ordinance 1 of 1887, which was as follows:—"A Company which has passed a special resolution for reducing its capital may apply to the Court by petition for an order confirming the reduction, and on the hearing of the petition the Court, if satisfied that with respect to every creditor of the Company who, under the provisions of this Ordinance, is entitled to object to the reduction, either his consent to the reduction has been obtained, or his debt or claim has been discharged or has determined, or has been received as hereinafter provided, may make an order confirming the reduction on such terms and subject to such conditions as it deems fit." The petition in the case was dated in Japan, 16th March, 1896, and signed by Mr. Lowder and Mr. Johnson, two of the directors of the Company. The petition set forth that the Company was incorporated in 1888 and the head offices were at 90, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong. The capital of the Company was \$130,000, divided into 1,300 shares of \$100 each. This year certain resolutions were passed and confirmed empowering the reduction of the capital of the Company from \$130,000, divided into 1,300 of \$100 each, to \$65,000, divided into 1,300 shares of \$50 each, such reduction to be effected by returning to the holders of 1,300 fully paid-up shares the sum of \$50 per share and by reducing the nominal amount of the shares from \$100 to \$50 each. Counsel then put in affidavits showing that the Company had no debts, with the exception of employees' current wages, and there was sufficient money in the

bank to cover these liabilities. Under those circumstances he asked the Court to order the words "and reduced" to be discontinued at once.

His Lordship—I make an order confirming the reduction of the capital as settled by the special resolution passed at the extraordinary meetings and I approve the minute which has been handed to me, and I direct that the Company be at liberty to discontinue the use of the words "and reduced" from the date of this order. I further direct that notice of the registration of the order and the minute be published once in the *Hongkong Government Gazette*, once in the *Hongkong Daily Press*, and once in the *Japan Gazette*.

1st July.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR DR. CARRINGTON
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

BREAKDOWN OF A CASE.

Li Fung was charged with unlawfully receiving a woman named Un Shing Kwai with intent to let her out for the purposes of prostitution.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. A. B. Johnson (Crown Solicitor), prosecuted and Mr. E. Robinson defended.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty and the jury-men were—Messrs. E. Mast, Lam Hon Wan, D. H. Silas, J. A. Gutierrez, E. Mauricio, Leong Shin Kong, and R. H. Heard.

The Acting Attorney-General said the complainant formerly lived with her husband, mother-in-law, and sister-in-law in a small village in the Kiochow Prefecture in the south of China, a few days' journey from Hoihow. There was a famine in the village this year and complainant's family got into pecuniary difficulties, which were very much aggravated by the death of her father-in-law. The family decided to leave the village and they went to Hoihow to look for work. The prospect of getting work was not very bright and two or three days later the complainant and her family came to Hongkong. On the steamer by which they came was a Chinaman who had lent some money to pay the funeral expenses of the deceased man. The steamer arrived here on the 20th May and the whole of the family went to a boarding house, where there was a dispute about the payment of the bill. The lender of the funeral expenses thereupon pressed for the repayment of his money and an arrangement was consequently come to between him and the complainant's mother-in-law whereby the complainant was to be pledged to a brothel and the money so raised to go towards the refunding of the loan. The complainant was taken to a brothel on the 30th May and money was paid over to secure her. Counsel mentioned that the complainant was a consenting party to the arrangement, as she was anxious for the family debt to be paid off; but his Lordship would doubtless direct the jury that that fact made no difference in point of law.

The complainant, in her evidence, said that when she went to the brothel the defendant told her to go away, and complainant then asked to be allowed to stop for a month or so.

At this point his Lordship stopped the case and directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty.

The complainant had told a different story at the Magistracy and she was severely rebuked by his Lordship for telling lies.

The Court then adjourned.

4th July.

THE PERJURY CASE.—JUDGMENT.

His Lordship delivered judgment in the case in which Wong King Tong and Wong Wa were charged with perjury. It will be remembered that the prisoners were found guilty on Monday, the 29th ult., and immediately on the verdict being returned Mr. Robinson, who defended, moved for arrest of judgment on three grounds, the principal one being that the indictment was bad in law as the prisoners had been jointly indicted. After hearing the arguments of both Mr. Robinson (for the defence) and

Mr. Francis, Q.C. (for the prosecution), his Lordship reserved judgment until yesterday.

His Lordship in giving judgment said—In this case the defendants were charged with perjury in an information containing two counts. The first count had reference to the first defendant alone. By this count it was charged that, at the Supreme Court in its Summary Jurisdiction, on the 27th May, 1896, before T. Sercombe Smith, Esq., Acting Puisne Judge, a suit by which Wong King Tong, as plaintiff, sought to recover from Wong Chi Tong and Wong Wa Po, as defendants, the sum of \$364.41, came on for hearing and at such hearing it was a material question whether two agreements, each of them dated the 10th September, 1895, where chopped by Wong Chi Tong, and that Wong King Tong, having been declared in due form of law to speak the truth, did knowingly, wilfully, falsely, corruptly, and maliciously declare amongst other things in substance and to the effect following, that is to say, "Wong Chi Tong then chopped the agreement, and that then Wong Chi Tong went away, and that then I (that is, Wong King Tong) paid the money to Wong Wa Po"; whereas in truth and in fact Wong Chi Tong did not chop any agreement and was not in fact present at any interview between Wong King Tong and Wong Wa Po on the 10th September, 1895; whereby Wong King Tong has incurred the punishment of persons committing wilful and corrupt perjury, at Victoria in this colony on the 27th May, 1896. The second count had reference to the second defendant alone. It was in form and substance, *mutatis mutandis*, identical with the first count, except that the evidence stated to have been given by the second defendant with respect to the chopping of the agreement by Wong Chi Tong was somewhat more detailed. To this information the defendants on their arraignment severally pleaded "not guilty." The trial took place in this Court, with a common jury, on the 26th, 27th, and 29th days of June, 1896. I directed the jury that each of the defendants was standing his trial separately on the count which had reference to him individually, and that it was therefore competent to them, if they saw fit, to find a verdict against one of the defendants and to acquit the other. At the same time I told the jury that, inasmuch as the evidence alleged to have been given by the defendants respectively had relation to one and the same matter and was of the same purport and effect, it was difficult to see how that evidence could be held to be false in one case and not false in the other. In the result the jury, by a unanimous verdict, found both the defendants guilty. Mr. Robinson, counsel for the defendants on the trial, thereupon moved in arrest of judgment on the following grounds:—first, that the information was bad since two persons cannot be jointly indicted for perjury; secondly, that the information was bad as not averring that the Court before which the alleged false declaration was made was of competent jurisdiction; and, thirdly, that the evidence alleged to have been given by the defendants severally should have been set out in the information in the very words used by them and not in its mere substance and effect. To take the first ground of objection, I proceed to consider whether it would avail in the English law of criminal procedure, and, if it would there avail, whether the law of the colony differs from the English law in that respect. In Archbold's Criminal Pleading and Evidence, 21st Edition, p. 927, it is said:—"Two or more cannot be jointly indicted for perjury." The authority given for this proposition is the case of *R. v. Phillips*, 2 Q.B., 921. In 3 Russell on Crimes and Misdemeanors, 6th edition, p. 332, it is said:—"It has been holden, on motion in arrest of judgment, that several persons cannot be joined in one indictment for perjury, the crime being in its nature several." And the same case, *R. v. Phillips*, *ubi supra*, is cited. In that case it appears that six persons were indicted in one indictment for perjury, and four of them pleading were convicted. It was then moved, in arrest of judgment, that "crimes (especially perjury) were in their nature several, and that two cannot be indicted together." In giving judgment on the motion the Court of

King's Bench said:—"There may be great inconveniences if this is allowed: one may be desirous to have a *certiorari*, and the other not; the jury on the trial of all may apply evidence to all that is but evidence against one." The judgment was arrested. I do not find any decision impeaching the authority in this case, and, as I have already shown, it is cited as of authority in the received text books. There appears, therefore, to be no doubt that the joinder of two or more defendants in an indictment for perjury is, under the English practice, a misjoinder which may be made the subject of a demurrer, motion in arrest of judgment, or writ of error, or the Court will in general quash the indictment. Archbold p. 77. Nor does it seem to make any difference on this point whether the defendants are charged together in an indictment sustaining only one count or separately in an indictment containing two or more counts. This, then, being the state of the English law on the subject, let us inquire whether a different rule of practice prevails in this Court. Mr. Francis, who conducted the case on behalf of the Crown, stated, on the argument of the motion, that the practice of the Court had been to allow a joinder of counts against different defendants in cases of this kind. I have caused the records of the Court to be searched as far back as the year 1869, and it appears that during that period there have been only two cases in which two or more persons have been charged in one information for perjury. The later case is *R. v. Lubbi Bux and Fattah Deen*, June Sessions, 1888. In that case the defendants were charged with perjury in an information containing only one count. It appears that the defendants were not represented by counsel, and the question of a misjoinder was not raised or argued. The earlier case is *R. v. Wong Hung Yau and Ng San Fat*, June Sessions, 1881. In that case the defendants were charged on an information containing two counts, one count having reference to each of them—in fact the circumstances were the same as in the present case. Mr. Francis appeared for both defendants, and according to the Acting Chief Justice's notes, "objected to the defendants being tried together." The Attorney-General assented to their being tried separately. They were accordingly so tried, and a verdict of not guilty having been returned as regarded Wong Hung Yau, a *nolle prosequi* was entered on the second count relating to Ng San Fat. These cases do not, in my opinion, support the position that, on a question of this kind, the practice of this Court is different from the practice of the English Courts. It remains to consider whether, independently of any course of practice, there is any local enactment making valid a joinder of defendants in one information on a charge of perjury. I am unable to discover any such enactment. At one time I was inclined to think that such a power was conferred by section 7 of the Criminal Law Procedure Ordinance, 1865, but on consideration I am not able to regard it as sufficiently clear and precise in its terms as to impliedly abrogate a common law rule of practice such as that under consideration. The conclusion—

Mr. Francis—Will your Lordship allow me? Your Lordship does not seem to have taken any notice—at any rate you have not referred to it in your judgment—of the case to which I called your attention and which seems to me to entirely get rid of and explain the case of the *King v. Phillips*. I referred to the *King v. Kingston*, 8 East, page 431, and pointed out the difference between the joinder of two defendants in one case and the joinder of two separate counts in one case. Your Lordship will remember that I was taken by surprise when my learned friend raised his objections and I had no books here when the matter was argued, and I shall therefore be very glad if your Lordship will allow me to re-argue the case.

His Lordship—Let me see the case.

Mr. Francis—The case is reported in 8 East, my Lord, and I have just sent for it. There it is specifically laid down that it is no objection in point of law—

His Lordship—Is it a case of perjury?

Mr. Francis—It is not a case of perjury; it is a case of offences generally. It is laid down that a joinder in offences which are in their nature general—

His Lordship—Of course I do not want to re-argue the question at this point; I simply want to look at the case.

Mr. Francis—I would call your Lordship's attention to the fact that I had no opportunity of looking up all the points and therefore I should be very glad of the opportunity of re-arguing the question. I was taken quite by surprise and was able to refer to only the books before me at the moment.

His Lordship—I cannot have a re-argument now that I have delivered judgment in the case.

Mr. Francis then proceeded to quote this case mentioned in East and said it was similar to the present case, in which he contended there was not a joint indictment. Each man was severally indicted.

His Lordship—Mr. Francis, I do not think it is correct in point of law that there should be a re-argument in the case, now at any rate. You said you had a case and that possibly might change my view, which you seem to have gathered I was taking. If you will let me see the case I will let you know whether the case need be re-argued. I do not think it is correct at this point. At the same time, if you have a case that is very clear on the point and shakes the opinion which I have formed of course I would be willing to have the case re-argued.

Mr. Francis handed the case in East up to his Lordship.

His Lordship (after glancing at the case)—I really did not catch the facts of the case as you read it. I might say I read this case in chambers.

Mr. Francis—Mr. Justice Laurence's judgment seems to me so strong.

His Lordship—Yes, I read the case.

His Lordship then re-read the case and said—I may say with regard to the case which Mr. Francis has quoted that I had already read it, although I did not, while he was referring to it, catch it sufficiently clearly to remind myself of it. I think the ruling in this case does not seem to affect the ruling of the King's Bench in the case of the *King v. Phillips*. It appears to me quite clear that if the *King v. Phillips* case had been in any way affected by the *King v. Kingston* the text books would have recognised that and have treated it as invalid. So far the text books lay it down that two persons cannot be tried together. That is the principle of the English law, and I find no difference on that point between the law in this colony and the law laid down in England. The conclusion at which I arrive is that the first ground of objection to the information must be decided in accordance with the principles on which it would be decided in England and that it must therefore prevail. Under these circumstances it is unnecessary to consider the remaining grounds of objection. The judgment of the Court accordingly on the motion is that judgment on the information and conviction is stayed and that the defendants be discharged.

Mr. Francis—I ask your Lordship to order the defendants to be detained for another indictment to be made against each of them separately.

His Lordship—I do not think I ought to direct them to be detained. Of course the prosecution must decide on what course to take on that point themselves; that is for the prosecution. Let the defendants be discharged.

Mr. Francis—Well, my Lord, I formally apply for a Bench warrant for their re-arrest. The proceedings at the Police Court stand perfectly good and complete. These men have been committed for trial and have gone through a trial which has turned out to be invalid and therefore they are liable to be tried again.

His Lordship—That is a matter for the discretion of the prosecution—whether they will take further proceedings.

Mr. Francis—Very well, I, on behalf of the prosecution, say they intend to take further proceedings and I apply for a Bench warrant for the detention of the defendants.

His Lordship—Can you cite any authority?

Mr. Francis—No, my Lord, except that we are at liberty to indict them afresh.

His Lordship—Would not that be a case of the Court intervening between the Crown and the defendants to the prejudice of the defendants? I do not think the Court ought to—

Mr. Francis—If a *nolle prosequi* had been

entered and these defendants were about to be discharged a formal proclamation would be made calling upon any person in court to show why these persons should not be discharged and if any fresh charge were made his Lordship would direct their detention.

His Lordship—I do not think I can make any order.

Mr. Francis—Very well, my Lord.

This concluded the business of the unusually long Sessions.

Immediately after the defendants had obtained their discharge the police were instructed to re-arrest them, but of course the guilty and lucky pair had disappeared and could not be found. The police are still looking for them.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE.)

YEUNG SHIU KAM v. HON. F. A. COOPER AND OTHERS.

Yeung Shiu Kam brought an action to recover \$250 damages from Hon. F. A. Cooper, Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Mr. H. B. H. Lethbridge, Dr. F. W. Clark, Mr. N. J. Ede, and Police Constable Rae.

The suit is a test case and is brought to try the right of the Sanitary Board to enter premises and pull down cocklofts without getting a Magistrate's order.

Mr. J. Hastings (of Mr. V. H. Deacon's office) appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. A. B. Johnson (Crown Solicitor) represented the defendants.

Mr. Hastings asked his Lordship to fix a day for the hearing of the action.

His Lordship said he would take the case on Wednesday next at 10.15 a.m.

The plaintiff's filed petition reads as follows:—

1.—The plaintiff is a merchant carrying on business at Victoria in the colony of Hongkong, and is the owner of certain houses and premises situate at Victoria aforesaid and known as Nos. 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, and 90, Queen's Road East.

2.—The defendants, the Honourable Francis Alfred Cooper, John Mitford Atkinson, Henry Bridgman Henderson Lethbridge, Francis William Clark, and Nathaniel Joseph Ede were on or about the 8th May, 1896, members of the Sanitary Board as constituted by Ordinance No. 24 of 1887 of Hongkong. The said Francis William Clarke is also Medical Officer of Health of the said colony. The defendant Colin Rae is a member of the Hongkong Police Force and is one of the officers of the said Sanitary Board.

3.—On or about the 8th May, 1896, the defendants or their servants or agents wrongfully and illegally entered upon the plaintiff's premises Nos. 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, and 90, Queen's Road East and caused great damage therein by pulling down and injuring certain mezzanine floors or cocklofts therein and taking away or wholly removing portion of the said mezzanine floors.

4.—On account of the illegal act of the defendants as aforesaid the plaintiff has suffered damage to the amount of \$250.

The plaintiff therefore humbly prays:—

(1).—That the defendants may be ordered to pay to the plaintiff the sum of \$250 and the plaintiff's cost of this suit.

(2).—That the plaintiff may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require.

Dated the 23rd June, 1896.

The answer filed by the defendants is as follows:—

1.—The defendants admit the truth of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the petition.

2.—The defendants admit that on or about the 8th day of May, 1896, they or their servants or agents entered upon the plaintiff's premises at Nos. 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, and 90, Queen's Road East, but they deny that they so entered either wrongfully or illegally.

3.—The defendants admit that they or their servants or agents pulled down portions of certain cocklofts belonging to Nos. 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, and 90, Queen's Road East, but the defendants state they were justified in so doing under the provisions of the Closed Houses and Insanitary Dwellings Ordinance, 1894, and of the by-laws made thereunder, and

the defendants deny that they caused any damage or injury to the said premises or any of them for which they can be held liable at law.

4.—The defendants deny that the acts alleged against them in the petition were illegal, and they deny that the plaintiff has suffered damages to the amount of \$250, or any other amount whatever.

5.—In the alternative, and while denying any liability whatever, the defendants bring into Court the sum of \$60 and assert that the same is sufficient to satisfy the claim of the plaintiff herein.

Dated the 2nd day of July, 1896.

REBELLION IN FORMOSA.

REPORTED MURDER OF A PARSEE MERCHANT.

GREAT EXCITEMENT.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

TAIWANFOO, 1st July.

A rebellion has broken out in the centre of the island. Hoonim, the camphor centre, was attacked on the 27th June. It is supposed the few Japanese there, numbering about a dozen, including the gendarmes, were killed, and it is feared that Mr. D. D. Ollia, of the firm of Dinshaw & Co., has also fallen a victim. The town is supposed to have been sacked and the loss to foreigners will be considerable. The Japanese troops are reported to have fallen back upon Chang-hoa to await reinforcements.

This deplorable state of affairs is solely due to the cruelties committed by the Japanese in the country and to the utter ignorance, arrogance, and general misconduct of officials.

I will wire you as soon as I can get authentic news. The roads are blocked everywhere and there is no communication with Hoonim. The only other foreigner at Hoonim at the time of the outbreak, besides Mr. Ollia, was Mr. Patel, and he escaped.

[BY TELEGRAM.]

ANPING, 2nd July.

A rebellion has broken out. Hoonim, camphor centre, has been sacked. Ollia reported killed. All others safe. Great excitement prevails here.

[Mr. Ollia had been resident in Formosa for a number of years. His firm is interested in the camphor trade and he was no doubt at Hoonim in connection with that business. The deceased gentleman's son arrived at Hongkong only a few days ago from India. It does not appear from the above letter or telegram that the report of Mr. Ollia's murder has been confirmed and there is therefore still room for hope that he may have made good his escape.]

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The following correspondence has been forwarded to us by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead for publication:—

House of Commons,
London, 5th June, 1896.

My dear Mr. Whitehead,—I enclose Mr. Chamberlain's reply to a letter which I addressed to him, not long ago, urgently pressing upon him the claims of Hongkong to additional unofficial representation in the Legislature Council. I dwelt upon the strong and general feeling of the colony on the subject, on the facts that the predominance of the Crown was not endangered, that the object was solely to ensure the fullest representation of local opinion, and so forth. I also asked whether there was any record in the Department of Lord Ripon's undertaking to you with respect to the concession of at least one or two additional unofficial seats. Before you receive this the decision of Mr. Chamberlain will probably have been published. I send this to complete the correspondence.

I trust the Minister's decision will be favourable. You know how strongly I sympathize with the wish of the colony, and how I have thrown my small influence throughout into the scale for you. If I can do anything in the future (assuming that the decision is unfavourable), please let me know.

With best and kindest regards.—Very faithfully yours,

J. HENNIKER HEATON.

The Hon. T. H. Whitehead.

Downing Street,
30th May, 1896.

Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlain to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant relative to the constitution of the Hongkong Legislative Council, and to inform you that Mr. Chamberlain has just addressed a despatch to the Governor conveying his decision on this subject, which will be published by Sir W. Robinson in the colony. I am, sir, your obedient servant,

EDWARD FAIRFIELD.

J. Henniker Heaton, Esq., M.P.

THE RECENT RAINS AND THE RESERVOIRS.

The reservoirs have benefited to a very considerable extent by the heavy rains which fall during the month of June, and on the 1st July there was a total storage of 180,000,000 gallons. The rainfall during the month was 17.52 inches as registered at Kowloon Observatory and this is a little over the mean for the past ten years. Of course the rainfall at Tytam and Pokfulam differs, sometimes in a great measure, from the rainfall day by day at Kowloon, but taking all the year round it will be found that the Kowloon readings come very near those at either of the two reservoirs. The prospect for the year is by no means so dismal as it was last year, when the rainfall for June was exceptionally low and when what should have been the rainy season was almost an unprecedentedly dry one. July and August have yet to run before the rainy period can be said to be over, and it is to be hoped that these months will be productive of sufficient rain to fill Tytam. At present Pokfulam is almost full, as it contains 60,000,000 gallons of water, and the supply is, and has been for some days, obtained from that reservoir only, together with the streams. Tytam reservoir, which is not being drawn upon, contains 120,000,000 gallons, so that it is just about a third full; but of course the streams are running very freely and for some time to come they will be carrying into the reservoir the water which has fallen during the past month. With an abundance of rain during July and August Tytam reservoir should be filled before it is utilized again. Certain figures relating to the rainfall and the effect on the water supply will no doubt be interesting to consumers. Hon. F. A. Cooper, the Water Authority, reckons that one inch of rainfall is equivalent to about 4,000,000 gallons of water at Pokfulam, and 7,000,000 at Tytam. In addition, the catchwater at the east of Tytam gives about 1,500,000 and about 2,000,000 gallons are drawn from the streams; so that altogether one inch of rain means a gain to the water supply of about 14,500,000 gallons. Of course these figures cannot be said to be mathematically correct, but they can be relied upon as approximately accurate. As the consumption per day is 3,000,000 gallons, we require a yearly rainfall of about 90 inches for the purposes of a constant water supply.

PRESENTATION TO PLUCKY POLICEMEN.

There was a very large gathering of the members of the Hongkong Police Force at the Central Police Station on the 3rd July. The occasion was the presentation of medals to Police Constable 70 Hoggarth and Chinese Constable 30 Li Lin who displayed such conspicuous bravery in arresting the Wanchai murderer. Amongst those present were Mr. H. B. Lethbridge (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Deputy Superintendent Corcoran, and Chief Inspector Mackie.

Mr. Lethbridge made the presentation and said—His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to recognise the gallant conduct displayed by P.C. 70 Hoggarth and P.C. 223 Li Lin when arresting the murderer of the District Watchman on the night of the 2nd May last. The special jury, in finding the prisoner guilty of the crime, added a rider in which they

stated that it was their wish to call the attention of the Governor to the courageous and intelligent manner in which these constables effected the capture of the prisoner. Their admirable conduct was apparent from the first and I had already informed the Governor that I would bring their names forward for special recognition as soon as the case was concluded. Courage and intelligence are two very necessary qualities for a constable to possess and if these qualities had not been displayed as they were on that night in all probability the perpetrator of a most dastardly crime would have been still at large and a further danger to the community. The Governor has directed that Constable Hoggarth shall receive the third class medal and that the fourth class medal shall be awarded to Constable Li Lin.

Constable Hoggarth then stepped forward and Mr. Lethbridge, addressing him, said—I am much gratified that it has fallen to my lot to present this medal to you for conspicuous bravery in the execution of your duty. Constable Hoggarth, you are still a young man, and I am glad that when you had an opportunity of showing what you were made of you acquitted yourself so admirably.

To the Chinese Constable Mr. Lethbridge made the following observations—I am very glad to present you with this medal given by the Governor for conspicuous bravery on the night the District Watchman was murdered.

After presenting the medals Mr. Lethbridge concluded—It will be remembered that the Police were assisted on that night by four non-commissioned officers and a sapper of the garrison. Their names have been submitted to the Governor and his Excellency has been pleased to award them \$10 each.

The interesting proceedings then concluded.

SYSTEMATIC THEFTS FROM EUROPEAN HOUSES.

A thief was brought before Hon. Commander Hastings at the Police Court on the 2nd inst. who has given much trouble to the police and not a little anxiety to many European householders in the colony. He has committed many robberies of a most audacious character for over a month past and the detectives have consequently been keeping a very sharp look out for him. He was eventually captured red-handed by a coolie at No. 7, Police Station, who certainly deserves credit for discarding the broom and dust pan and taking up duties outside his ordinary sphere of work—an action which almost deserves to be placed on record. It seems that between eight and nine o'clock on Wednesday night the thief had the impudence to walk on to the verandah of No. 9 Police Station and quietly steal, take, and carry away two bamboo chairs. The coolie at the station observed this unauthorised removal and he promptly undertook the office of a smart detective. He followed the thief just sufficient distance to make sure that robbery was the intention and then went up to him, caught hold of his queue, and marched him back to the place whence he came, and then good naturedly relinquished his short term of police work to a more experienced official. Detective Sergeant McIver made inquiries about the prisoner and first of all searched his house, which is somewhere near No. 5 Police Station, and found there several pawn tickets relating to stolen property. One of the tickets referred to a couple of valuable bronze vases belonging to Mr. Ramsay, Superintendent Engineer for Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, which the owner brought here from England about ten years ago. Mr. Ramsay lives in Castle Road and the theft from his house was a particularly audacious one, as the place was entered at two o'clock in the afternoon, and not only were these two vases stolen, but also a couple of bronze figures, which were taken from the hall of the house. Among the other victims is Mr. Paul Jordon, of Alveston Terrace, who had two chairs stolen from his verandah on Tuesday night, while Mr. Forsyth, who is engaged at the Tungwah Hospital as ward master, was robbed of a bank book (which was found in the possession of the prisoner) as well as other property. In the accused's house were also found plates, kettles, a scuttle, and sundry

articles which he had stolen on the previous night from a wine cellar at 1, Upper West Street, and many of the pawn tickets related to silk clothing which has been stolen from various places in the colony. Indeed there is already sufficient evidence to show that the prisoner has been carrying on these thefts for a very considerable time, and in many instances it is known that he has followed coolies carrying articles from auction rooms and at a convenient time has cleared off with anything that was reasonably portable. In some cases he has stolen goods just as they have been placed outside a house, while in others he has entered the house immediately after the goods have arrived and carried them off in a most barefaced manner. The prisoner was remanded until Monday.

TRESPASSING WITHIN THE FORTS AT KOWLOON.

GERMAN SAILORS CONVICTED.

At the Magistracy on the 3rd July, before Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, four German sailors from the German steamer *Preussen* were charged with trespassing within the field works of the Hongham Forts on the 2nd instant.

The prisoners, who were not represented, pleaded not guilty.

Thomas O'Toole, bombardier in the Royal Artillery, was first called and said that at 6.30 p.m. on the 2nd inst. he found the four prisoners trespassing on a road connecting the two forts at Hongham.

His Worship—The charge is that they were within the field works. Were they within the field works or fortifications?

Witness—They were.

Continuing, witness said the prisoners had passed a notice board on which was written in English and Chinese "no unauthorised person is allowed to pass by this road."

His Worship—Was the road built by the Engineers?

Witness—Yes.

In continuation of his evidence witness stated that the road mentioned connected the two forts. He was standing at the East fort when he saw the prisoners approaching, and he at once summoned the guard and called out to the military police to stop them, and they did so.

A lance-corporal in the Hongkong Regiment, stationed at Hongham, said he saw the four prisoners approaching the battery from the west. They did not actually enter the battery. They had walked about six paces past the notice board. The orders were that no person should go inside the works without a pass. The muzzles of the guns could be seen from the place where the prisoners were standing.

Bombardier O'Toole was recalled and in answer to his Worship said the prisoners were arrested within the battery. The muzzles of the guns in the East fort could be seen from the spot at which the prisoners were arrested. After the arrest the prisoners were handed over to the police.

Inspector Butlin spoke of the arrest of the prisoners. When brought to the station they were charged with trespassing within the field works of the Hongham forts. He explained the charge to them and in reply they said that they were not aware they had done anything wrong. They asked a Chinaman if they could walk on the road leading to the forts and he replied that they could. The Inspector added that the prisoners were searched when arrested, but nothing was found on them.

This concluded the evidence and the prisoners, in answer to a question from the Court as to whether they wished to say anything in answer to the charge, made a statement through Inspector Hansen, who acted as interpreter, to the effect that they went there with the intention of bathing. The road on which they were found was pointed out to them by a Chinaman as the one leading to the bathing place.

In answer to his Worship the prisoners said they could not read English. The notice board was pointed out to them when they were taken into custody.

His Worship—There was a notice board there with a notice in English upon it. We cannot put it up in every language; English is

good enough for us. They must have seen that it was a fort. They will be fined \$25 or one month each.

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LIMITED.

On the 6th July an extraordinary general meeting of the Dairy Farm Company, Limited, was held at the town depot of the Company, Wyndham Street. Dr. Noble presided, and there were also present Messrs. Granville Sharp (Director), W. H. Potts (Secretary), J. Walker (Manager), G. C. C. Master, G. C. Cox, W. Parfitt, J. W. R. Taylor, C. L. Gorham, J. M. E. Machado, and Wong Ping Ni.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, this meeting is held in accordance with the Companies Ordinance of 1865, the object being to enable you to record your vote on the question at issue, i.e., shall the Dairy Farm Co., Limited, be wound up? It will be quite unnecessary for me to give you details or to elaborate and dwell at length upon the causes which have, in the opinion of your Directors, made such a step necessary. We were just congratulating ourselves on having surmounted most of the difficulties by which the Company has been for years beset, and had just declared and paid the first really substantial dividend that has been paid since the formation of the Company, ten years ago, when our only stock-in-trade, our herd, was almost entirely destroyed by the fatal rinderpest, or cattle plague, by which they were attacked, and against the ravages of which we were powerless and helpless, because of the absence of all expert veterinary medical advice; there being on qualified veterinary surgeon within 1,000 miles of the colony at that time (March last); there has been none nearer since then, and there will be none for another six months at least, our Colonial Veterinary Surgeon having recently been granted six months' extension of leave. Your Directors feel assured that had he or a similarly well qualified veterinary surgeon been within call in March last, it would be quite unnecessary for us to be here to-day to discuss the advisability of winding up this Company. The Company's aim in the past has always been, and its policy in the future will be, to supply its customers with only the best and purest of milk, cream, and butter. It was with this object in view that the Company purchased and built its sheds upon ground remote from the settled and thickly populated portions of the colony, appreciating the well authenticated fact that the germs of typhoid fever and other diseases of a more or less alarming and fatal character are not only carried but propagated with great facility in and through the medium of milk and other dairy produce. This is well recognized and beyond dispute. We have, therefore, always given especial attention and care to cleanliness and segregation. Our town depot, or distributing station, as well as our cattle sheds, are airy, lofty, and commodious, well-drained and well-ventilated, and the greatest care is given to the cleanliness of our stock and the premises generally. The same care is exercised in the selection of all our food stuffs as well, and only the best purchased and made use of, our endeavour being, as I have intimated, to give our customers only the purest dairy produce, free from the contaminating influences of overcrowded and thickly populated districts, abounding in evil smelling drains, and where diseases, easily communicated by dairy produce, are ever present. While we have, in pursuing this course, safeguarded the health, interests, and welfare of the consumer, the interests of the shareholders have been jeopardized and even sacrificed thereby. The Colonial Government under whose protecting care we live gives your Directors no encouragement to continue the maintenance of their establishments at Pokfulam, situated, as you know, several miles from Victoria; for we are led to believe that had our farm been, or near the town the Government most probably would not have assumed the attitude or followed the course they elected to pursue in our case, when rinderpest attacked our cattle and we applied to them for much needed assistance. The attitude assumed by the Government was

as follows, viz., your herd are a long distance from town, a menace or danger to no one, and we will endeavour to prevent as far as possible the contagion being carried by you or others beyond your own premises. We will therefore declare your premises infected, place a guard of police about your property, and allow no person or thing to leave the premises; whatever is within shall remain within, and whoever may be within shall remain there, that he may not be the means of carrying the contagion beyond your own premises. This order, was, we think, the death knell to our herd—(hear, hear),—but was only operative as regards our cattle, our European manager, and his European assistant. Natives, however, could go in at the back, and come out again when they liked, and a score or more of the contaminated coolies actually bolted; and, further, it did not prevent a regiment of soldiers from passing over ground saturated with the excreta and blood of many diseased or slaughtered animals, and afterwards passing through our non-infected property and within close proximity of the sheds containing some of our healthy animals, which had not hitherto been exposed to the contagion of the fatal malady. They then marched along the Pokfulum road, through the town, and proceeded to their quarters in Kowloon, carrying on their garments the blood of these diseased animals. As we have said, had our establishment been in the town the course pursued would, in all probability, have been that carried out with the Chinese dairies in Wanchai and Kennedytown some five years ago, when they were visited with a similar epidemic. The Colonial Veterinary Surgeon at once condemned the sick and healthy animals, and they were immediately slaughtered and put into junks and removed for burial, at the expense of the public. (The carcasses of our cattle were disposed of at our own expense). Later, the Chinese owners were compensated for the loss of the slaughtered animals, as is done in most countries, not excepting, we believe, Japan and the Transvaal, where, we are informed, the Matabele outbreak was caused by the Government insisting on the diseased cattle being slaughtered. We would like you to clearly understand that our grievance is against the principle adopted, and not against the individuals by whom it was enforced. (Hear, hear.) Our losses have been great and, in our opinion, the best thing to do will be to pass the resolutions which Mr. Potts has just read to you; sell the property of the Company to a new concern, by adopting an agreement which has been prepared, and which provides that the capital of the new concern shall be \$75,000, \$50,000 of which is to be considered as paid up and \$25,000 to remain on call; the calls not to exceed \$1, and that one month's notice of such calls be given. That is to say, the present shareholders will receive for each share they now hold one share in the new Company, on which \$5 will be considered as having been paid up, and \$2.50 shall remain on call; the capital to be \$75,000, divided into 10,000 shares of \$7.50 each. If there are any questions I will be glad to answer them; otherwise I will put the resolutions to the meeting.

There were no questions and the CHAIRMAN proposed—"That it is desirable to reconstruct the Company, and accordingly that the Company be wound up voluntarily, and that Mr. William Hutton Potts be and he is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purposes of such winding up."

Mr. SHARP—It is with a great deal of self humiliation that I address you to-day. We are indeed grievously oppressed and in deep sorrow at the result of our long-continued efforts. It has been said before that this company was started not to make money but to make milk; and Dr. Mansen, who in March, 1886, succeeded in getting up the company amongst a few well-wishers of the colony, was regarded at the time, and I believe he has been regarded ever since, as a benefactor. He had the sympathy of the whole colony, although the supporters of the company were but few. In the following year the Cattle Diseases, Slaughter-houses, and Markets Ordinance 1887 was introduced, with a view to bring Hongkong, in these matters, intoline with British, American, and European civilisation. This Ordinance empowered the Governor in Council to make orders, in case of epidemic, for the immediate and

out and out slaughter of cattle. That Ordinance was passed, I say, gentlemen, for the protection of the colony—for the protection of the colony's meat and milk supply and for the protection of those who undertook to provide the supply. The consequences of the action—I was going to say—rather the inaction of the Government have been that we have been subjected to the penalties of that Ordinance without participating in any measure in the protection of the Ordinance. Now I cannot believe that that was the intention of the Legislature. Cowkeeping in Hongkong has been proved for many years past to be a very difficult affair. Mr. Kennedy told me with his own lips that he wished heartily he had never seen a cow, and I believe the major number of the cattle in the colony have been subjected to mortgage from time to time from the commencement of the Dairy Farm up to the present day, excepting our own. Ever since the days of the prophet Samuel and King Saul there has been manifested a great indisposition to slaughter healthy cattle—they slaughtered the Amalakites' seedy, weakly, and miserable stock, but they saved the best—and in order to meet that in disposition on the part of owners this benevolent legislation was provided to take the responsibility of dealing with such a terrible infliction as rinderpest off their shoulders. We felt, as trustees for you, that we had no right whatever to slaughter these cattle; we dared not slaughter them; they were perfectly healthy. Our manager thought, we thought, some medical men in the colony thought that it was simply an attack of influenza which would soon pass away. If we had slaughtered \$5,000 worth of cattle some morning and it turned out that we had done so without sufficient grounds we should have had to answer to you for it. The Government were in the same position. We had no veterinary surgeon to appeal to, and they had no veterinary surgeon to appeal to, and in this dilemma, not knowing what to do, they did nothing except, as the Chairman said, to lock us up. We received from the Government a few dollars for coolies' clothing and mat sheds which had been destroyed by the Sanitary Board, but they have not offered us any compensation for cattle which have been destroyed, and that is the reason for our calling you together. We hoped all along that the Government would come to our aid by putting in force the Ordinance provided for their action, but they did not do so, and in giving us money for the coolies' clothing and the mat sheds they "strained out the gnat and swallowed the camel." They gave us the units and the tens for the coolies' clothing, &c. but they declined to give us the hundreds and the thousands for the cows destroyed. I can only hope that it is possible that some new light may be thrown upon the subject and that they may take a different view of the matter. Again I say that we are very sorry at the way in which the thing was carried out, and we hope even now against hope that there may be something brighter in store. I beg to second the resolution.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. MACHADO proposed—"That the said Liquidator be and he is hereby authorized to consent to the registration of a new Company, to be named The Dairy Farm Company, Limited, with a Memorandum and Articles of Association which have already been prepared with the privity and approval of the Directors of this Company."

Mr. MASTER seconded.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. MACHADO proposed—"That the draft agreement submitted to this meeting and expressed to be made between this Company and its Liquidator of the one part, and The Dairy Farm Company, Limited, of the other part, be, and the same is hereby approved, and that the said Liquidator be, and he is hereby authorized, pursuant to section 149 of the Companies Ordinance 1865, to enter into an agreement with such new Company (when incorporated) in the terms of the said draft, and to carry the same into effect with such (if any) modifications as he thinks expedient."

Mr. MASTER seconded.

Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That is the end of the passing of the resolutions. These resolutions of course will have no weight until they are confirmed at a second meeting, of which you will have due notice. We have to thank you for your attendance.

THE THIRD GYMKHANA MEETING.

The two previous Gymkhana meetings were very successful, but the meeting on Saturday was undoubtedly the best of the season from every point of view. An excellent programme had been got together and the sport provided was first class. Fortunately the weather turned out fine, although there was rain earlier in the afternoon. The attendance was large and the interest in the events was sustained throughout. The following is a list of the officials:—

PATRONS.—His Excellency Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G., His Excellency Major-General Black, C.B., Commodore G. T. H. Boyes, R.N.

COMMITTEE.—Mr. R. Alexander, R.B., The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Mr. Hart Buck, Capt. Burney, R.A., Mr. Grote, Mr. V. Caesar Hawkins, Mr. T. F. Hough, Capt. Loveband, A.D.C., Mr. J. Mackie, Mr. A. S. Manners, Mr. G. C. C. Master, Mr. C. H. Nugent, R.E., Lt.-Col. The O'Gorman, D.A.A.G., Capt. Radclyffe, R.B., Commander W. F. Tunnard, R.N., Hon. T. H. Whitehead.

JUDGES.—Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving and Hon. T. H. Whitehead.

HANDICAPPEES.—Mr. Hart Buck, Mr. M. Grote, Mr. T. F. Hough.

STARTER.—Capt. Burney, R.A.

TIMEKEEPER.—Mr. J. Mackie.

CLERK OF THE SCALES.—Mr. R. Alexander.

HON. TREASURER.—Capt. Radclyffe.

HON. SECRETARY.—Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman, D.A.A.G.

By kind permission of Lieut.-Col. Norcott and the officers of the Rifle Brigade the band of the Regiment played the following selections under the conductorship of Mr. W. D. Peachey, bandmaster:—

March..... "Austria" Nowotny.
Finale..... "A Gaiety Girl" Jones.
Valse..... "Vision" Waldteufel.
Selection..... "Nell Gwynne" Planquette.
Dance..... "Hungarian" Brahms.
Galop..... "Froh und Heiter" Faust.

HALF MILE HANDICAP; first prize presented with \$20 added; 2nd, \$20; entrance \$1.

Mr. John Peel's The Laird 12st. 2lbs.

(Mr. Jones) 1

Lt.-Col. The O'Gorman's Morrison 11st. 7lbs.

(Mr. Boden) 2

Mr. Nugent's Armistice, 11st. 12lbs.

(Capt. Radclyffe) 3

Capt. Burney's Baccarat, 9st. 10lbs.

(Mr. Long) 0

There was a short delay at the post. Morrison was the first to get away, but at the black rock he was caught by The Laird and at the village Mr. Peel's pony passed him. Armistice was now third and in this order they entered the straight. The Laird came forward with a good stride and won in a common canter. Morrison was second, Armistice third, and Baccarat last. Time—64 secs.

HANDICAP FOR ALL BONA-FIDE POLO PONIES; from the 1½ mile Post in; 1st prize presented, with \$20; 2nd, \$20; entrance conditions as in No. 1.

Capt. Burney's Throstle, 11st. 9lbs. (Owner) 1

Capt. Loveband's Artaxerxes, 11st. 13lbs.

(Capt. Radclyffe) 2

Surg.-Capt. Edye's Planet, 10st. 13lbs.

(Owner) 3

Mr. Bodin's Gibraltar, 10st. 9lbs. (Owner) 0

Mr. Lewin's Blue Green, 10st. 2lbs. (Owner) 0

Throstle showed the way, being closely pursued by the others. Nearing the straight. Artaxerxes was the most prominent of the four in the rear and in the straight he and Captain Burney's pony ran a capital race home, the latter managing to win by a length. Planet and Gibraltar had a close struggle for third place, Planet getting ahead by almost a length. Time—50 secs.

A STEEPLECHASE; the Course to be selected by the Committee; first prize \$50; 2nd, \$20; at least 5 starters or no race; entrance conditions as in No. 1.

Mr. Holland's Vapour, 11st. 2lbs. (Mr. Boden)	1
Mr. Hart Buck's Voltigeur, 11st. 1lb.	
(Owner)	2
Capt. Loveband's The Friar, 11st. 12lbs.	
(Owner)	3
Mr. Stern's Bravo, 10st. 7lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	0
Capt. Radclyffe's Quilon, 10st. 6lbs. (Owner)	0
Mr. Salmon's Q.C., 11st. 5lbs. (Owner)	0

After very little trouble at the post the ponies were got away to a good start, Voltigeur leading. Vapour very soon came away from the others and it was seen that the race would be between this pair, and a most interesting race ensued. Voltigeur led for a considerable part of the journey, but Vapour was kept well in hand and at the hurdle near the rock they were abreast. They cleared the hurdle together and ran neck and neck for a considerable distance. Just before reaching the last obstacle but one Voltigeur lost ground by slightly swerving and to make matters worse he took the water jump rather badly. Thus Vapour was enabled to get a lead of two or three lengths, by which he won. The Friar was a long way behind.

LADIES' NOMINATION; the Nominees to hit a polo ball round two posts and in through the goal posts, 1st and 2nd prizes; entrance \$2.

Nom. by.

Mr. Boden.	1
Surg.-Capt. Edye.	2
Mr. Gresson.	3
Mr. Grayson.	0
Capt. Burney.	0
Capt. Loveband.	0
Mrs. Edye.	2
Miss May MacEwen.	3
Mrs. Eccles.	0
Mrs. Hanham.	0
Miss Black.	0

This contest provided a good deal of interest and spectators closely watched the career of Mr. Boden, who struck the polo ball with much precision and won with comparative ease.

A FREE HANDICAP FOR ALL CHINA PONIES; distance 6 furlongs; 1st prize, \$60; 2nd, \$20; 3rd, \$10.

Mr. Master's Red Fish, 11st. 7lbs. (Owner)	1
Mr. Whitehead's Kingscote, 9st. 13lbs.	
(Mr. Hart Buck)	2
Mr. John Peel's The Laird, 12st. 7lbs.	
(Mr. Jones)	3
Lt.-Col. The O'Gorman's Morrison, 11st.	
11lbs. (Mr. Boden)	0
Mr. Gresson's Vagabond, 11st. 7lbs. (Owner)	0
Mr. Nugent's Armistice, 11st. 5lbs.	
(Capt. Radclyffe)	0
Captain Loveband's Artaxerxes, 10st. 6lbs.	
(Mr. Long)	0
Captain Burney's Baccarat, 9st. 9lb.	
(Capt. Long)	0
Mr. Mounsey's Presto, 9st. 9lbs. (Mr. Coutts)	0

There was rather a long delay at the post. Voltigeur had a lead of a length from the others and maintained it until reaching the straight. Then three or four ponies come out in fine style and a magnificent race ensued. Red Fish was cleverly handled and he gradually overtook Voltigeur, passed him a few yards from the post, and won by half a length after a capital struggle. The spectators loudly applauded Mr. Master's victory and there can be no doubt it was well deserved. The event was undoubtedly the best in the afternoon's proceedings. Time—1 min. 37½ secs.

THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE CRICKET MATCH.

In the Cricket Match between Oxford and Cambridge, played on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last, the former won a brilliant victory over their rivals by four wickets, though public opinion had been rather in favour of Cambridge. Cambridge having won the toss went in first, putting together a score of 319, while Oxford in their first venture put together 202, thus narrowly escaping a follow on. The Cambridge second innings produced 212, leaving Oxford the formidable task of 330 to get to win, which, however, they accomplished with the loss of six wickets, one player scoring over 100 runs.

The following announcement appears in the *Singapore Free Press* of the 27th June:—"Information having been received that Foochow is now free from plague, H.E. the Governor in Council has notified that the quarantine imposed on vessels arriving from Foochow is removed, such vessels being permitted to enter the port without inspection by the Health Officer. But was Foochow ever infected?"

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE SUICIDE AT MACAO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—You had a notice in your paper of 30th June to the effect that the Dean of Macao committed suicide with his full senses about him. For the sake of the honour of the poor Dean himself and for the sake of repairing the tremendous scandal given if such a statement be let pass without comment I beg you to read over what follows and then judge for yourself if the man acted with his full senses, or if he was out of his mind at the time. Long before coming to Macao he had to give up teaching theology and philosophy on account of nervous attacks. He was always pestering people by asking them, most fervently, to pray for him, for he had great need of prayers. After his arrival here, he carried on the same. I never met him in the sacristy, in the street, or in the house, but he would join his hands with great fervour and look at me earnestly and say, "Oh, good holy Father, do remember me in your prayers. I have great need of them." Of course after a time it was too much of a good thing, so I used to get away as soon as I could. After a time I found he did the same to every body else and they did the same as myself. In the meantime he performed his duties most scrupulously; he was as gentle as a lamb and was perfect in his behaviour. No one ever noticed the slightest shade of levity in his conduct. He was exceedingly scrupulous and was often heard to say he would rather die than offend Almighty God in the least thing.

About a fortnight before the accident the Dean fell seriously ill and a consultation was held by the doctors. After the consultation one of the doctors warned his friends to look out. The Dean got gradually worse in his head; he began to ramble, his answers were not to the point; he became most childish. He was always wanting to go to confession and the slightest word would set him right.

On Friday night—the accident took place on Saturday morning—at eleven o'clock he suddenly remembered he had not said the rosary and he and his companion set to and said it straight off. Being sick, he was not bound to recite his office, but it was with the greatest difficulty that he was persuaded that it was no sin not to recite when sick. How is it possible for a man with such a tender conscience to commit the greatest sin possible, such as suicide is? Common sense and theology tell us it is a moral impossibility.

The Dean, then, had been getting gradually worse until Saturday morning. After his companion had dressed the bad leg he was suffering from, at seven o'clock he left him alone and went out to say mass. Soon afterwards a servant came with a drink and the Dean told him he need not come again until sent for. Towards 7.30 the servant happened to go upstairs, for everything was so quiet he concluded the Dean must be up, but what should meet his eyes but the poor Dean in shirt and drawers, in, what he thought, a praying posture; for the feet rested on the ground and the knees were bent. However, when the servant got nearer he saw what had happened. Frightened out of his wits he rushed off at once for the head priest. He had just finished mass. He was upstairs in a jiffy and when his eyes fell upon the horrible sight he burst out crying like a child, big man as he is. The authorities were sent for at once, and the doctor who had attended. Without the slightest hesitation, the doctor wrote out the following declaration:—

THE DOCTOR'S DECLARATION.

Joao Machado d'Araujo, Doctor at the School of Oporto. I declare that Nestor Augusto de Castilho, Dean of the Cathedral at Macao, died to-day of suffocation from hanging; he had been suffering for a long time from cerebral disturbances, for which he has been treated without any satisfactory result. I declare this to be the truth and sign,

JOAO MACHADO D'ARAUJO.

Macao, 27th June, 1896.

"The Dean is dead from hanging" struck the town like a thunderbolt. Who could believe it? He was so good, so kind and gentle, how could it be? The answer took two forms, one

that he had done the act of his own free will and in his full senses, the other that the poor man was out of his mind. The first answer makes the saintly Dean guilty of the blackest crime a man can commit against his Creator. The second frees him from all fault.

And the funeral? He received full ecclesiastical burial without any "maimed rights," which fully shows the opinion of the ecclesiastical authority, for not even a priest would have a religious burial if he were to commit formal suicide.

Dear Sir, if you would insert these notes in your paper you would do a very great act of kindness to the living and the dead. The shock was bad enough as it was, without making it worse by such conjectures as were made in your notice.

I have not said anything of the way in which the Dean was hung, nor of the arrangements made by him. Suffice it to lay down the following:—The actions of a man are twofold, *Actus humanus*, *Actus hominis*. How many actions are performed by us without our adverting to them, yet such actions may be ingenious actions and signs of thought may appear in them, but who would dream of attributing such actions to a man and making him responsible for them? Such actions are *actus hominis*, and such, very, very probably, or, as the greatest theologians in town say, most certainly, were the actions of Dean Nestor when he hung himself: he performed the actions of a man but not as a man and therefore is not guilty, and therefore is innocent, and therefore is not a formal suicide.—I am, sir, yours truly.

WILLIAM ARKWRIGHT.

St. Joseph's College, Macao.

THE CHINKIANG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND MR. BRENNAN'S MISSION.

The following representation made by the Chinkiang Chamber of Commerce to Mr. Brennan is published:—

Chinkiang Chamber of Commerce,
9th June, 1896.

Sir,—In response to a letter from H.M. Acting Consul desiring that information and suggestions regarding British trade be submitted to you, I have the honour to send herewith a short report by the Committee dealing with subjects which are considered of sufficient importance to bring to your notice.

In reference to the specific points raised in connection with the late war I am only able to say that British trade appeared to be in no way affected by it, and as to the consequences the publication of the new Commercial Treaty must be awaited before an opinion can be expressed. —I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

E. STARKEY,
Chairman.

Byron Brennan, Esq., C.M.G.,
H.M. Consular Service in China.

Regulations for navigation and trade upon the river Yangtze.—It is submitted that precautions necessary thirty years ago are no longer called for, and relief is sought in regard to certain rules by amendment or modification.

Art. III. (revised regulations) provides that sea-going vessels proceeding further than Chinkiang must be provided with a certificate described as the Chinkiang pass without which such vessels are liable to confiscation. This pass, it is contended, is no longer a necessity and shipping interests should be delivered from the serious delays and inconveniences arising therefrom. Representations have from time to time been made to H.M. Consul on the subject of annulling the provisions of this article, and during last year following on the incident of a Russian steamer from Hankow proceeding to sea without her papers in consequence of some arbitrary proceedings on the part of the custom-house at this port, Sir Nicholas O'Connor was in communication with the Inspector-General with a view to the rule being modified. Sir Robert Hart proposed that a supplementary regulation be incorporated in Art. III., whereby large sea-going steamers proceeding to Hankow to load teas might as an alternative to taking up and delivering the

Chinkiang pass at that port receive and deliver it at Woosung, and this practice is being observed. It must be manifest, however, that dealing with the subject in this manner does not satisfactorily solve the difficulty, seeing that only a very trifling percentage of the vessels proceeding above Chinkiang derive any benefit, and those chiefly of the Russian flag. No redress was proposed in connection with the large amount of tonnage, principally British, loading at Wuhu to which detention is immensely more serious than to vessels loading teas at Hankow, to accomplish which there is usually plenty of time.

It is submitted that the rule in question, which is obsolete and of no practical use, should be annulled, and that vessels proceeding up the Yangtze should be permitted simply to enter and clear at their port of destination.

Art. V., clause 2, provides that where import cargo is transhipped on board a river steamer at Shanghai it must first be cleared of all duties. It cannot seriously be contended that there remains any necessity for keeping this rule in force. The port of destination is naturally the place where duties should be paid, and it is also a disadvantage that valuable cargo should necessarily be subject to examination *en route* when the consignee cannot be present. That agents of steamers should be called upon in Shanghai to advance the duties on the cargo carried is a distinct hardship, and it is submitted that every facility should be given to render the conveyance of merchandise simple and easy. With every prospect of a considerable increase in the importation of British manufactured goods into the valley of the Yangtze, it is important that this matter should receive earnest consideration.

Inland navigation.—Free right to traverse inland waters with steam power for the purpose of trade will at no distant date be of great advantage and it is suggested that the restrictions in this connection should be modified or annulled.

Purchase of land by foreigners.—British subjects meet with almost insurmountable difficulties in their endeavour to acquire land. In cases where owners have been quite willing to sell the officials have interfered, threatening punishment and imprisonment. Near the Wuchoushan bungalow, some seven miles from Chinkiang, a stone tablet was erected some years ago, and it is still standing, proclaiming at the instance of the Chinkiang magistrate that the people must not sell land to foreigners. In view of the continued growth of this port and the increased necessity for foreigners finding residences on the hills adjoining, it is essential that official interference in the legitimate acquirement of land should be firmly dealt with.

Foreign merchandise provided with transit certificate.—It is claimed that the transit pass system has flourished more successfully in Chinkiang than in any other port in China. Inaugurated nearly thirty years ago, the trade has steadily progressed till in 1895 the Customs returns show that almost one-third of the entire collection under this heading was made at Chinkiang. That the port will continue to be a very large distributing centre is undoubted. During the first nine or ten years, between 1868 and 1878, the transit certificate appears to have been very generally respected, but subsequently illegal demands at various barriers in this and adjacent provinces commenced to be made, and these, in order to avoid detention, have usually been paid. In flagrant cases, however, on the representation of H.M. Consul, the Taotai has intervened and procured the release of goods detained, but it is apparent that the power of this official is necessarily limited, and appeals to the Viceroy are fruitless. It is contended that the squeezes are paid to ensure a speedy examination and passage of the boats, and herein appears to lie the chief difficulty, as obstruction and delay in the connection would be serious. On the whole, it is not apparent that the exactions have any marked effect on trade, but this surmise might be an erroneous one. In dealing with this subject, the importance of the announcement that H.E. Li Hung-chang will endeavour, while visiting the Courts of Treaty Powers, to obtain an increase of from five to eight per cent. *ad valorem* of the import duties levied on foreign

goods in China must be kept in view. While it may not be unreasonable to seek some increase in duties, guarantees should be forthcoming that the subject of illegal charges should be once and for all time finally settled, and not alone in certain provinces, but throughout the Empire. Without such guarantees, and of a very reliable character, experience teaches that the results would be disastrous, and to British trade in particular. Having regard to the fact that the system of squeezing is so very general, it is probably unnecessary to particularise certain articles, but reference to returns will show that yarns, shirtings, and other piece-goods form a prominent feature in the transit trade. In the case of goods brought from the interior under certificate, the charges exacted are somewhat higher, and such goods as hides, goats' hair, and straw braid may be mentioned.

Consular representation.—This matter, indirectly bearing on British trade, is approached by the Committee with some diffidence. It must nevertheless be apparent that the subject is an important one. The Committee fully recognise the difficulties that H.M. Minister has to encounter, and would merely confine itself to suggesting, with all respect, that titular Consuls should be permitted, when possible, to remain in their posts undisturbed, as thus they can acquire a practical and intimate knowledge of local trade and the advancement of British interests be promoted.

The Committee of the Chinkiang Chamber of Commerce.

E. STARKEY,
Chairman.
A. E. ALLEN,
Vice-Chairman.
E. G. BYRNE,
Member of Committee.
F. GREGSON,
Hon. Secretary.

Chinkiang, 1st June, 1896.

RUSSIA AND THE NEW CHINESE NAVY.

The Hongkong *Daily Press* in a recent issue drew the attention of the public in general and of the British Admiralty in particular to the question of the forthcoming Chinese navy. On the grounds that a fleet is necessary for police duty, and that it is the Peking trump card for the suppression of rebellion on the littoral and in the Yangtze valley, our contemporary thinks the speedy reconstruction of a navy inevitable, notwithstanding the fact that the wisest officials clearly understand that its ultimate fate may be to fall into the hands of some foreign aggressor. The *Daily Press* advocates that the British Admiralty should no longer sulk in its tents hugging the memory of the Lang incident, but should come forward in the spirit of amity to help the Chinese; that we ought to allow our officers to enter the Chinese service, that we should again receive educational missions, and give the old facilities to young Celestials to study at Greenwich, pass through the *Excellents* and *Vernons*, and serve a commission or two in our sea-going squadrons. It fears that the only result of standing aloof will be to throw the Chinese navy into the hands of our rivals, an issue which it deprecates on the ground that a well-found fleet, if strengthened by the presence of a few skilled foreign officers and gunners, would probably turn the scale in a naval war.

In endorsing our contemporary's views we congratulate it on its prescience. The contingency it feared has, since it wrote, become an accomplished fact. Our rivals are taking and have taken active measures to prevent the new navy being formed under exclusively British, or combined British and German auspices. We have it on indubitable authority from Peking that Count Cassini has in his recently assumed masterful manner forced on the Chinese the services of a Danish officer who comes confessedly to safeguard His Imperial Majesty the Czar's interests in China's naval development. His Excellency, with Bismarckian frankness, plainly stated to the Tsungli Yamen that the friendly and intimate relations now existing between China and Russia rendered it impossible for the Czar to contemplate the formation of a new navy under the exclusive

tutelage of any other foreign Power. The Yamen wriggled hard to escape the toils, but without success. To the plea that China as yet had no navy, they were bluntly told to get the man out in readiness; he would be useful at Port Arthur or in the schools. They next played the card of professional etiquette, and stated the impossibility of a British post-captain of almost flag rank admitting a lieutenant of no standing or seniority as a co-adjutor. Their reply was practically: "All right, he will then go as second to the Englishman, but in any case you have to take him," and truly they have had to take him. We understand the officer in question is now on his way out, successfully foisted on to the unborn service as an ostensible Russian agent.

From a professional point of view the thing is a farce; the Danish naval officer, though as well educated as any in Europe, suffers one insuperable handicap—he has no fleet in which to practise evolutions and tactics. Notwithstanding Count Cassini's assurances to the Yamen that Denmark is a naval power, a service which contains less than four dozen more or less obsolete ships and about thirteen hundred officers and men is not the most likely source of good practical commanding officers. Naval science does not exist in China, nor do the complete means of acquiring it. Chinese officers have to learn it through the medium of foreign teachers, a foreign tongue, and foreign instruments. English has been chosen as the language of instruction, and for this reason alone it would be preposterous to select a foreigner of other than British and American nationality as professional adviser. The officers China already has know English and no other Western language; the text books, charts, etc., are all English and confusion worse confounded will result if any attempt be made to introduce diversity of tongues or methods. Count Cassini, however, is too frank in his procedure to warrant the opinion that he would perpetrate such a folly. The new appointment is entirely political and not educational: we shall probably not have to wait long ere we see a similar policy inaugurated in the Chinese army. The moment that this force assumes the character of anything but a rabble, and approximates even to the semblance of a fighting character, we shall see the existing German monopoly invaded.

We regard the new departure as the inevitable result of Russia's interference of 1895, and from the Russian point of view it may be confessed that it is moderation in *extremis*. China is bound increasingly to bear the inevitable penalty of calling in the bear as a protector from the wolf, and must be prepared to find the ursine claw quite as disagreeable as the lupine tooth. We are more concerned in the British view of the new appointment. We hope our own officials in Peking are alive to the situation and will take prompt steps to inform the Admiralty of the significance and future bearings of the last Russian move. The Admiralty might with advantage unbend a little from its attitude of *hauteur*, and recognise that things have changed and that we must change with them.—*N. C. Daily News*.

In reference to the above the *Mercury* says:—We have ascertained from a well-informed source the following facts, which hardly bear out the conclusion of the altogether insignificant incident commented on by the *North China Daily News*. The facts of the forcing on the Chinese Government the services of a Danish officer who comes confessedly to safeguard His Imperial Majesty the Czar's interests in China's naval development are simply these. A young Danish naval lieutenant, anxious to see something of the world and at the same time desirous probably of obtaining more remunerative employment than obtainable in the Danish navy, asked the Danish Minister in Peking, Count Cassini, for his assistance in obtaining an engagement with the Chinese Government suitable to his rank and age, an assistance which Count Cassini may or may not have given. So far as is known here at present, say the young officer's friends, he has not to date been engaged, and it is, of course, utterly childish to suppose that the Russian Minister would abuse his power with the Tsungli Yamen in favour of a Danish sub-lieutenant.

The statement made in the same leader that "the Danish naval officer though as well educated as any in Europe has no fleet in which to practise evolutions and tactics," is as erroneous as the remark about the Danish fleet consisting of "less than forty more or less obsolete ships" is needlessly offensive. As a matter of fact, Denmark has, considering the size of the country, an excellent fleet consisting of:—7 ironclads, 9 fast cruisers, 7 gun-boats, and 27 torpedo-boats, all of modern type, besides a number of training-ships with an equipment of 6,200 (not 1,100 as affirmed by the *N. C. Daily News*) officers and men, and another 6,200 in reserve, all of them trained and hardy sailors, second to none in the world. The fleet is divided into three divisions, which practise naval evolutions and tactics every year in the Atlantic, the German Ocean, and in Danish waters. It appears obvious that officers belonging to a small but efficient navy like the Danish enjoy a greater opportunity for instruction and for gunnery, actual personal experience in more or less responsible positions, than officers belonging to monster navies where the young man has much less scope for individual capacity.

It is finally a generally accepted fact that the Danish harbour defences, notably those at Copenhagen, including the torpedo-service, is second to none in Europe; wherefore it might very well suit China to avail herself of the services of some of the officers who have made this work their speciality.

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION.

Telegraphic despatches received at Shanghai on the 28th June from Kansu via Peking report the Mahomedan rebellion to be spreading to an alarming extent and that it is much more formidable than the one which began a year ago and was reported last February as "crushed." It is further reported that the Mahomedan rebels have recently inflicted another serious defeat upon the Imperialists. Governor Wei of Shensi, with 10,000 men, was at last reports (24th June) within 280 li of forming a junction with General Tung Fushiang's army near Hochou.—*N. C. Daily News*.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

Not a few intelligent natives, who follow the eddies and counter eddies of Peking statecraft, are of opinion that Li will, before the year is out, resume his old place in Tientsin. He might be tempted to return, for with the Chinese even more than with us, it is a fine thing to die in harness; there is always a greater shower of posthumous honours, which go to the glorification of the family, both in prospect and retrospect. If our advice had conceivably any influence on him, we should not hesitate to give it, viz., to seek the leisure and rest to which his past services so well entitle him. Ill lies the head that wears a crown, but far worse that which directs a Chinese satrapy, and under the new conditions now obtaining in Peking, disaster is more likely to attend foreign politics than safety. We do not ignore that duty and patriotism should outweigh personal considerations, but we remember the fact that the energy and vitality of our distinguished friend and neighbour are not what they were.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

REPORTED MURDER OF A MISSIONARY IN NORTH KIANGSU.

The North Kiangsu correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes under date of 28th June:—

News was received to-day that a Roman Catholic priest was severely beaten—some official despatches say killed—in Chuchoufu this morning. Chuchoufu is in the north-west end of Kiangsu. For fifteen years foreigners have held property in the city. The Roman Catholics had repeatedly attempted to take possession of their property and were as often driven out, the Viceroy's orders to the contrary notwithstanding. After the triennial examinations this year the priests were invited to come and take possession, with the effect just noted. The settlement of this case will be of deep interest to other missions in the prefecture.

AN INCIDENT OF TRAVELL IN CHINA.

A MAGISTRATE STRIPPED.

As an illustration of unsafe travelling on the Canal to Soochow, owing to the depredations of robbers, we may mention that the Magistrate of the Changshu district, while going to the provincial capital on official matters, was intercepted at Kunshan by these brigands and robbed of all valuables and clothing. The Magistrate himself was actually stripped till he had only a shirt on.

Referring to the robbery committed at Kunshan on the Magistrate of Changshu, passing en route for Soochow, we have received further particulars regarding the same. The Magistrate was personally taking four criminals to the provincial capital to be dealt with by the high authorities there. The criminals (who were also robbers) in charge of some yamen runners were sent in another boat that had sailed before the magistrate's. Had the robbers come across the first boat and rescued the criminals which, it is said, was their original motive, the consequences would be far more grave for the Magistrate. As it was he had merely the bad luck of losing his personal property, but his narrow escape from the cruel hands of the pirates was only through sagacity and presence of mind. The moment the robbers came upon him and asked who he was, he promptly and coolly replied that he was a writer, whereupon they stripped him till he was almost naked. Taking advantage of a favourable chance he jumped overboard on the bank side and waded through a marsh of reeds till he got to terra firma, ultimately finding his way to the tipao's house. The intimacy of the tipao on this occasion, on finding out who his visitor was, might well be imagined, and we need scarcely mention anything about him beyond that he sent the magistrate in a chair back to his yamen with no end of kotowing. The robbers threw all the inmates of the boat overboard except one and made away in the new boat, but we are pleased to learn one of the gang was caught the next day.—*Mercury*.

MURDER OF A PLANTER IN NORTH BORNEO.

The *British North Borneo Herald* of the 16th June publishes the official report on the district of Kudat for May, which gives the following particulars of the murder of a planter there:—Early on the morning of the 24th, news was brought to Kudat that Mr. George Breitag had been killed by natives at Langkom. It appears that the occurrence happened in this way:—Shortly after 5 o'clock on the morning of the 23rd, Mr. Breitag, hearing a row and being told that coolies had been killed, ran out, unarmed, to see what was the matter, and meeting a Bajow on the road carrying two spears, he went up to question him. The Bajow squatted down as if to have a talk, and then struck at Mr. Breitag with a spear. Mr. Breitag caught this spear, but received the next one in his side; he managed to hold the second spear also, and the Bajow then attempted to use his parang, which weapon Mr. Breitag also succeeded in catching and holding. A Javanese mandore then came up, and knocked the Bajow down with a blow from his cane. The parang fell, the mandore picked it up and handed it to another Javanese, who cut down the Bajow. Mr. Breitag was carried to his house, after making an effort to walk. Dr. Hoare was sent for and arrived shortly after 11 o'clock, but, notwithstanding his assistance, the wounded gentleman expired a little after four in the afternoon, never once having complained or shown impatience while suffering from his painful wounds.

The *Mercury* of the 25th June says:—Our readers will regret to learn that Mr. George Brown, for many years in charge of Her Britannic Majesty's Shipping Office at this port, and afterwards Consul at Kinkiang, has resigned the Consular Service, news having been received here to-day to that effect. The cause of Mr. Brown's resignation is, we learn, owing to a failure of his eyesight.

THE PROSPECTS OF RAUB.

A contributor of the *Straits Times*, describing a trip in Pahang, says:—The next day, Saturday, we made our day of rest, proceeding no further than Raub. Here, our first business was to inspect the specimens of the newly discovered lode at Bukit Koman. This is probably the deepest stuff yet raised in the Peninsula. The Bukit Koman shaft is now down to 248 feet (exactly one hundred feet below the present working, No. 1 Level), and, by tunnelling, the new reef was struck at 19 feet in. It has since proved to be at least seven feet thick, and gives every promise of substantial depth. While this opening up has been in progress the work on the higher level has not been neglected, and, although the battery has for some time past been principally fed from the No. 1 Level of Bukit Koman, it is estimated that, at the present time, there are at least 70,000 tons of payable quartz in sight, and that this enormous reserve increases at the rate of 100 tons a day so long as driving operations continue.

The railway, about three miles in length, connects with the Battery, Western Lode, Raub Hole, and Bukit Koman; and every morning the busy little locomotive brings in some twenty-five or thirty trucks, each containing nearly 1½ tons of quartz, of which two-thirds usually come from Bukit Koman, and the balance in about equal proportions from the other two workings. It is important to note that Bukit Koman, with its apparently inexhaustible stores of wealth, is situated in the centre of the concession, the boundary being fully three miles distant on every side. The scheme for increasing the crushing power, now under the consideration of the directors, will, it is said, if carried out, prove this property to be rather a gold field than a gold mine. With the stuff now in sight, the Raub Company have sufficient to occupy their present battery for at least five years, and if they continue to extend their operations as rapidly as heretofore, the stamps are likely to wear out before they get through with it.

The Raub Company have now received permission to use the water of the river to work their plant. It was the excessive cupidity of Sir Charles Mitchell which caused the original delay. It appears that, some years ago, a man came to the manager and asked leave to erect a shop on the property. Permission was given; and, others following his example, there came in time to be a small township erected on the Raub concession, the new comers paying a nominal monthly tribute for the right of occupation. Discussing the possibility of this township becoming a flourishing city, the Resident of Pahang and Mr. Bibby are said to have come to a sensible understanding. The Company were to be credited with the price of the surface rights of any of their land which the Government might see fit to sell by public auction. The Governor of the Straits Settlements seems to have considered that the Raub Company had no good claim to the surface rights, and, on the Company applying for permission to use the water of a neighbouring river, the Governor, eager to obtain something for nothing, made a valiant attempt to barter the water for the surface rights of the concession. The Company stood firm, and his Excellency of Singapore, on the advice of the law officers of the colony, withdrew his claim to the surface rights, and Mr. Bibby's application to use the water was granted.

With regard to the scheme for working the Raub plant with electricity, it is proposed to tap the river at a distance of seven miles from the battery and at an elevation of 1,400 feet above it—the proposed intake is 2,000 and the Raub battery 600 feet above sea level—the water to be conducted by a *tali ayer* (open ditch) 2,000 feet in length to the pipe head. It is then carried 2,500 feet through a 26-inch steel pipe to the generating station. The water now returns to the river, while the power (10,000 volts) is transmitted by an overhead copper cable to the battery, a distance of 6½ miles. It is estimated that at least 300 h.p. will be available, and that this is sufficient to work 100 head of stamps and the pumping machinery, as well as to furnish the lighting. The cost of all this, inclusive of the

new crushing plant, would amount to from £35,000 to £40,000, to be called up in the course of two years. "Taken by and large," the prospects of Rauh have never looked brighter than at the present time—unless upon the face of the original prospectus—and, if the shareholders eventually resolve to follow the recommendation of their manager, they will certainly have a good return for their money.

HONGKONG.

Very few cases of plague have occurred during the past week, and the hot dry weather we are now experiencing will doubtless drive the disease away altogether. Last Friday judgment was given in a perjury case, the result being that two men who were found guilty of committing perjury were liberated. Four German sailors were fined at the Police Court on Friday for trespassing in Kowloon Forts. On Saturday a very successful Gymkhana meeting was held. The Dairy Farm Company, Limited, held an extraordinary general meeting on Monday, and it was decided to wind up and reconstruct the Company. Yesterday morning the Wanchai murderer was executed in Victoria Gaol. The two policemen who pluckily arrested him have each been made the recipient of a medal.

There were 2,362 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 167 were Europeans.

The Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Factors has been approved by Her Majesty.

On the 1st July there were 2 cases of plague reported, on the 2nd 2, on the 3rd, 1, on the 4th 2, on the 5th 2, and on the 6th 4.

The stamp revenue for the first half of the present year amounted to \$126,537, being an increase of \$16,522 on the amount collected in the corresponding half of last year.

In the *London Gazette* of the 5th June, it is notified that Assistant Paymaster F. R. Waymouth, Secretary to Commodore Boyes, has been promoted to the rank of Paymaster.

At the Alice Memorial Hospital last month the number of in-patients treated was 45 and the total out-patient visits were 1,090. At the Nethersole Hospital the numbers were 27 and 29 respectively.

The water having been pumped out of the hold of the *Glen Caladh* she discharged her cargo at the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's wharf at Kowloon and is now in the hands of the Lock Company.

At the Harbour Master's Court on the 1st July, four seaman on the British ship *Socotra* were sent to gaol for four weeks for refusing to work, and one seaman was sent to gaol for six weeks for refusing to work and also for assaulting an officer on the ship.

The construction of the new Murray Pier is being proceeded with in real earnest. The stone concrete blocks forming the foundation now show above water at low tide, and it is expected that the superstructure, which will be of granite ashlar, will be completed very shortly.

Commodore G. T. H. Boyes is to be relieved in charge of the Naval Establishments at Hongkong by Captain Swinton C. Holland, A.D.C., at present in command of the Fleet Reserve at Chatham. Captain Holland leaves England on the 30th July, in the P. and O. steamer *Valetta*.

Mr. Nicholas Nolan died at the Government Civil Hospital on Saturday afternoon. He was a very old Government servant, having been in the service altogether thirty-five years, twenty-five of which he spent in the colony. For the past thirteen years he acted as warden in the gaol, and previous to that he was in the Naval Yard.

A Chinaman was charged at the Magistracy on Saturday with attempting to obtain the sum of \$12 by false pretences from a Chinese foreman at Kowloon Dock. It appears he went to the Dock and requested payment of the money in the name of a boiler-maker whom he knew to be employed there, representing himself as the individual he mentioned. His story not being believed, the police were informed and the man was eventually arrested by Sergt. Robertson. He was sentenced to two months' hard labour.

From our Supreme Court report it will be seen that a test case with reference to the alleged illegal removal of cocklofts is now before the Court.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Company, Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram from the Mine, being the result of the June clean-up:—"The mill ran twenty-five days crushing 1,050 tons, yielding 515 ozs. of smelted gold. Fifty tons of concentrates calcined yielded 85 ozs. of gold."

Saturday being the "Glorious Fourth," the O. & O. steamer *Belgic* and the various American vessels in harbour were decorated in celebration of the occasion. Mr. Hunt, the American Consul, was "at home," and open house was also kept by other American residents, some of whom added to the festivities by having strings of crackers let off in front of their establishments.

The North Borneo correspondent of the *Straits Times* says the *Deucalion* is shortly to be put on the Sandakan-Hongkong run, in place of the *Centaur*, and in addition to the *Memnon*, which will go on running as usual. A good deal of timber is being exported; more perhaps than Hongkong can quite do with, and, in consequence, the shipments are large and prices low.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospitals:—

Market Charitable Fund, per Hon.

Registrar-General	...	\$50
Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart	...	20
C. Ewens	...	15
W. J. Saunders	...	10

At the Police Court on the 1st July, before Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Leung Yiu, 156, Queen's Road West, was summoned for failing to comply with a notice from the Sanitary Board requesting him to relay the floors of the kitchens of various houses of which he is the owner. The case was remanded for a week in order that the Crown Solicitor might attend. Mr. Ewens, who defended, said the notice was invalid.

The Right Rev. L. M. Piazzoli begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the Home for the Aged and Infirm:—

Already acknowledged	...	\$3,148
D. S.	...	20
A. P. Gutierrez	...	5
A. A. Gutierrez	...	2
R. R. Roberto	...	2
E. Antonio	...	2
E. A. Jorge	...	2

The monthly competition for the Wallace Cup by the Kowloon Detachment, H.K.V., took place on Sunday, when Mr. Hugh MacPhail managed to get a third win. Mr. Stewart made a good second. Annexed are the scores:—

	200 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	H'cap.	Ttl. points
Mr. H. McPhail	30	33	24	—	87
Mr. Stewart	30	28	25	—	83
Mr. Macdonald	27	29	23	3	82
Mr. Ewing	24	26	22	6	78

At the Magistracy on the 3rd July before Hon. Commander Hastings, a bluejacket named Patrick Drewer, of H.M.S. *Undaunted*, was charged with assaulting P.C. 53 Lawrence. The prisoner was an absentee from the ship and he was being taken back in a sampan on Thursday afternoon when he hit the constable on the left eye. The blow knocked the policeman down, but with the aid of his staff he was able to overcome the prisoner, who was thereupon taken to the *Tweed*, where extra assistance was obtained. The constable was so seriously injured that he appeared in Court with his head bandaged. The case was remanded till next day, when the prisoner was sentenced to forty-two days' hard labour.

At the Magistracy, on Saturday, a Chinese house boy, formerly in the employ of Mr. Wheeley, Bonham Road, was charged before Commander Hastings with stealing a quantity of cooking utensils. About three months ago he was discharged from Mr. Wheeley's employ, but on Friday evening last he returned to the house and was seen by one of the Chinese servants to go into the kitchen and remove several articles. He was caught and handed over to the police and the Magistrate now sent him to gaol for two months.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Sanitary Board was not held on the 2nd July as a quorum could not be obtained, the absentees being Dr. Ayres and Mr. N. J. Ede, the latter being absent from colony. The President (Hon. F. A. Cooper) consequently adjourned the meeting until next Thursday week, and the members present were asked to remain behind to privately consider the estimates for next year.

At the Magistracy on the 6th July a Special Session of the Justices of the Peace was held to consider an application from A. Fonseca for the transfer of the publican's licence now held by him to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises situate at houses Nos. 21, 23, 25, and 31, Queen's Road Central, and Nos. 1 and 3, Pedder's Street, under the sign of "The Hongkong Hotel" to one Charles Mooney. There was no objection and the application was granted. Hon. Commander Hastings and Mr. W. M. B. Arthur were the Magistrates present.

Some idea of the growth of business in the colony may be gathered from the increase in the bank note circulation. In June, 1876, the notes in circulation amounted to \$2,339,044, in the same month of 1886 to \$4,204,308, and last month to \$8,152,390, as follows:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	\$1,879,077	1,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	5,844,570	2,500,000
National Bank of China, Limited	428,743	285,000
Total	\$8,152,390	3,785,000

The following from the *Sydney Bulletin* has been sent to us:—"There is a lot of changing about among mining managers. The sorrowful part of a manager's life is to wrestle with a poor mine, and to follow a man who has proved it poor. In nine cases out of ten a manager leaving a mine is *prima facie* evidence that it should be left by the shareholders as well. The Hongkong G. M. Co., Mt. McDonald, N. S. W., has changed its mining manager and intends now to pursue a vigorous mining policy. It is mournful to remember that many thousands were paid for this show; some £10,000 was spent in machinery and in the mine, which has been worked with poor results since the day it was acquired, some six years ago. It has probably just as often happened that mints of money have been lost through good mines having been put under the control of lazy or incompetent managers and have afterwards proved "mines of wealth" when the right man has been found. We have an instance of that in the Punjom Mines and we trust it may be so with the "Hongkong G. M. Co., Mt. McDonald, N.S.W." whatever mine that may be.

The following extract from a private letter just received from Coolgardie may be of interest to those of us in China who have been envious of the few fortunes made and the many to be made in the great new gold field:—"There is not so much enthusiasm here now, and I am afraid that before very long English capital will be withdrawn unless some of the mines prove better than they look at present. The people at home are calling for returns and now the excuses of delay in the arrival of machinery, &c., which were put to so much use, are no longer available; yet the return is not forthcoming. If English and foreign capital is withdrawn the place goes down. Nearly all the mines in the district are handicapped for want of water. There are several mills, splendid machinery, hung up practically—working five stamps spasmodically when the full twenty should be going day and night, and there is no chance of their getting more water. There is a fair amount of gold about, but it is too costly to win. The outlays are enormous. Most of the machinery on the field has cost between £20 and £30 a ton to haul from Southern Cross, 150 miles from the coast, and everything else on that scale.

We understand that official information has been received stating that there is a marked decrease in the prevalence of bubonic plague at Amoy, although there are still a few cases.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The provincial judge, named Fui-un, who left Canton for Peking last March to have an audience of the Emperor, returned to Canton on the 1st instant. As soon as he had arrived, he went to pay his respects to the Viceroy and the Governor, and he received instructions to resume his office on the 2nd instant.

Owing to the late heavy rain most of the fields in the districts of Pun-u and Fa-un have been flooded, and a good number of red insects, which, it is said, are a great danger to the crops, has been found among the fields. The red insect is about an inch and a half long and it appeared once about thirty years ago. It eats the corn as well as the grass. The farmers are now trying to catch them.

A junk which left Shao-hing on the 25th ult. for Wuchow to buy rice, where rice is very cheap, for large quantities have been sent thither lately from Canton on account of the famine, was robbed when she was near Sam Yung-hap. The robbers took away all valuables from the passengers and the junk, but the money which was intended for the purchase of rice at Wuchow was not taken away, for the junk master carefully hid it away.

The magistrate of Nam-hoi issued a notification the other day to the effect that, as cases were often reported of criminals carrying away girls for sale, if any one can arrest a real offender he is to be rewarded with one hundred dollars. It has been discovered that the captured girls were forced into sedan chairs which were in waiting for the purpose and carried by several coolies. A coolie who was sitting in the chair embraced the girl in his arms and the girl was frightened with threats of being put to death if she cried. Girls are advised not to take any chair carried by more than two coolies, and old women should not have their chairs completely covered. The Kaifong people are told to stop any chair which is completely covered, heavily laden, and carried by more than two coolies, and to make enquiries.

On the 25th ult. twenty houses in Chuk Liu, in Pun-u district, collapsed, owing to a strong gale and a heavy torrent of rain. About ten persons were injured, but no life was reported lost.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At Bangkok the other day a Siamese woman gave birth to three daughters and one son. They did not, however, live long.

We (*Foochow Echo*) hear of the following changes in the British Consular staff. Mr. H. Goffe has gone to Macao. Mr. H. H. Fox is appointed to the Foochow Consulate and Mr. H. B. Joly to the Vice-Consulate, Pagoda. Mr. J. W. Jamieson, now Acting Vice-Consul at Pagoda, will leave shortly for Canton.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 29th June says:—It is sad when an old resident passes away, but it is still more sad when a bright and promising young life is cut off prematurely. Mr. A. W. Hunt, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, who died from typhoid fever early on Saturday morning at the age of twenty-four, was a very good business man, very popular socially with all who knew him, a rowing man, a cricketer, and a lance-corporal in the Machine Gun Detachment of the Volunteers. He had only been two years in Shanghai. His funeral on Saturday was attended by a large number of his sorrowing friends.

According to despatches received from Nanking, the German-modelled *Ad Astra* Brigade, one of whose instructors, Mr. Krause, was attacked the other day by the viceregal body-guard, will start for their new quarters at Woosung within a week or ten days, the vessels of the Nanyang squadron being utilised to carry these troops. To prevent a repetition of jealous attacks from the native-drilled troops garrisoning the Woosung forts, General Pan, the Commandant, has removed his brigade to some barracks a short distance from the forts in order to allow the *Ad Astra* men to have the forts to themselves, with the exception, of course, of the gunners and artillerymen quartered there.—*N. C. Daily News*.

It is announced in the Singapore papers that the directors of the proposed West Pilbarra Gold Mine, Limited, have decided not to go to allotment, the applications for shares not having been sufficient in their judgment to justify allotment.

A telegram has been received at Bangkok, dated Colombo, 19th June, announcing the death of Mrs. French, the wife of the British Consul at Bangkok, who was proceeding home, on account of ill-health, accompanied by her husband. The Consular Court and offices at Bangkok were, as a mark of respect, closed for public business on the 20th. The *Bangkok Times* says:—Considerable speculation is taking place, especially among British residents here, as to whether Mr. French, in view of the great bereavement he has suffered, will return to Bangkok to resume the office of H.B.M. Consul. In the telegram he despatched from Colombo, conveying the sad news to Mr. de Bunsen, Mr. French stated that he was proceeding to England, but no mention was made of his plans for the future. Prior to his departure Mr. French seemed, in conversation, doubtful whether he should return; probably, though he knew the serious nature of Mrs. French's illness, he was hoping his wife would be spared him for some time, during which residence in Europe might be necessary. The idea which, among many people in intimate relations with Mr. French, seems to prevail is that he will eventually resume his duties here.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 29th June says:—The death of Mr. Frederick Hayley Bell, at the age of sixty-three, removes from our ranks one of our oldest residents. Mr. Bell began his business career as a clerk in the Bank of England, and was a secretary to the Lord Mayor's Indian Mutiny Fund. He came to China nearly forty years ago, joining originally the firm of Smith, Kennedy & Co. He went to Japan in the interest of Mr. W. R. Adamson soon after it was opened to trade, and was subsequently made a partner in the firm of W. R. Adamson & Co., and its successor Adamson, Bell & Co., becoming a bill and bullion broker after the dissolution of the latter firm. Mr. Bell, who married in Shanghai in 1868, always held a high position in commercial and social circles, and took great interest in the public life of the Settlement, having made numbers of friends in the course of his career. He was seriously ill for some months, sinking very gradually, the end having come early on Saturday morning. He leaves a widow, one son and one daughter in Shanghai, one daughter in Chefoo, and one son at Tientsin, with whom great sympathy is felt. The funeral took place at the New Cemetery on Saturday afternoon, and there was a large attendance of his old friends and acquaintances. The service was conducted by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A. The coffin was covered with wreaths and crosses of flowers and was carried to the grave by Sir Nicholas J. Hannen, H.M.'s Chief Judge and Consul-General, and Messrs. J. W. H. Burgoyne, C. J. Dudgeon, E. J. Hogg, A. J. How, A. McLeod, Otto Meuser, and H. S. Wilkinson, Mr. H. F. Bell, the eldest son of the deceased, and Mr. H. R. Kinnear, were the chief mourners.

The *Siam Observer* of the 20th June gives the following account of a collision in the river at Bangkok:—The *Ban Seng Guan*, in backing down the river on Thursday, came into collision with the *Gloucester City*, anchored near the bend. As the former vessel proceeded to Singapore she has, presumably, suffered no injury. It seems, however, that the *Gloucester City*, which was empty at the time, and lying very high out of the water, had one of her plates bent in for about four inches. This plate, which measures about 16 ft. by 3½ ft., is of steel, and it will be necessary to take it out to bend it back again. Two adjoining smaller plates, which were also carried inwards to a slight extent, will probably be capable of repair *in situ*. As the damage is well above water-line, the captain did not wish to lose the four days needed for the repair, but to go on to Hongkong. The owners of the *Ban Seng Guan*, however, demurred, as the work could be done cheaper and quite as expeditiously here. They obtained an estimate from the Bangkok Dock Co., which undertook to make the vessel as she was before the collision at a cost of \$1,680.

Low Ban Seng expressed their intention of paying that amount into court if the work were not done locally, and the captain finally agreed to have the plates repaired in Bangkok, under the supervision of Captain Hicks, as the local agent for Lloyds. The *Gloucester City* will probably go into dock this morning. We have not yet heard whether any further claim will be made for loss of time, but if so it will probably be for a big amount, as the *Gloucester City* is a big vessel, with a large proportion of Europeans on board. She came here empty to load with rice for Messrs. Windsor & Co.

The Marquis de Morés, whose death was reported a few days ago, had a remarkable career, a sketch of which is given by the *Avenir du Tonkin*. The Marquis was murdered while proceeding to Ghadames. At the extreme of the oasis of that name resides the chief of the Elnoussi, one of the most powerful and most hostile of the religious associations of the Mohammedan world. It is known that a depot of arms has been established there, and at any time a signal for a holy war against French domination in Northern Africa may be given. In the sad news touching the Marquis de Morés there is therefore, says our contemporary, nothing surprising except the temerity of the victim. A violent end seemed to be almost in keeping with the career of such a man, whose virtues ran almost into vices and who carried his good qualities to their corresponding faults, being extreme in everything. His life was a combat and has ended in an adventure. Leaving the army at an early age he went to America and became infected with the large commercial conceptions of that country. He started a meat business and took the lead amongst the butchers of Chicago. He lost money, naturally, and returned to Europe. He stayed some time in his own circle, and then, becoming restless again, left for the Far East. He landed in Tonkin and there made application for a concession for a railway, which was to start from a deep-water port and run through the country, land on each side of the line to be given to the Company, after the American style, which they were to exploit at their own risk. This most legitimate and practical speculation, as our contemporary terms it, alarmed the authorities of Tonkin, and nothing came of the negotiations.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

HANKOW, 29th June.—Business reported since the 15th inst. is as under:—

	1896.	1895.
Settlements...	62,391 ½-chts.	47,688 ½-chts.
Shipments to		
Shanghai on		
Native acct..	2,756 "	2,377 "
Consisting of the following Teas:—		
		per picul.
Ningchows...	10,839 ½-chts. at Tls.	10.00 to 21.00
Khemuns ...	916 "	12.50 to 23.50
Oopacks	8,819 "	8.00 to 23.00
Oonams	13,441 "	7.50 to 16.00
Oonfaas	25,664 "	9.00 to 26.50
Seang-tams..	1,361 "	6.90 to 7.50
Ichang	2,361 "	17.25 to 21.50

The following are statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular last season:—

	1896.	1895.
Hankow Tea.		
Settlements...	473,549 ½-chts.	685,708 ½-chts.
Shipments to		
Shanghai on		
Native acct..	1,083 "	2,377 "
Stock	96,270 "	46,506 "
Arrivals.....	570,902 "	634,591 "
Kiukiang Tea.		
Settlements...	237,120 ½-chts.	287,846 ½-chts.
Shipments to		
Shanghai on		
Native acct..	1,673 "	nil,
Stock	23,303 "	17,422 "
Arrivals.....	262,186 "	305,268 "

The entire business to date as compared with the corresponding circular last year is as under:—

	1896.	1895.
For London and		
America	218,000 ½-chts.	208,000 ½-chts.
For Russia	494,669 "	665,554 "
	710,669 "	873,554 "

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1896-97	1895-96
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	1,418,704	1,970,711
Shanghai and Hankow	9,016,933	8,285,233
	10,435,637	10,255,944

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	874,614	3,767,942
Amoy	1,458,295	2,770,691
	2,332,909	6,538,633

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1896-97	1895-96
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow	12,883,267	23,242,163

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	4,857,652	7,985,534
Kobe	1,107,531	1,170,801
	5,965,183	9,156,335

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 3rd July.—(From Mr. A. B. Burkill's circular).—According to telegrams up to 30th ultimo London prices are hardening a little; quotations are 8/3 Gold Killings and 10/- Blue Elephants, "market firm." Raw Silk.—A purchase of Lan-foong Phoenix (old silk) is reported at Tls. 325, and this comprises the business of the week. The up-country markets have not given way much and very little Silk is being bought for this market. Arrivals of New Silk are about 4,500 bales to date, against 15,000 bales for same period in 1895. Arrivals, as per Cassa toms Returns 25th June to 1st July, 1,837 bales White, and 119 piculs Tussah Silks. Waste Silk.—Musters of Kading Frisonnets have been shown, but no business has resulted so far. Settlements of Fine Gum 1 and 2 at Tls. 92/9, of Tussah Waste 1 and 2 at Tls. 26, and Tls. 22, and of Tussah Cocoons at Tls. 4 1/2 are reported. Arrivals unimportant. Pongees.—No business of consequence. The export of Steam Filatures to date is as follows:—To London 2 bales, to the Continent 76 bales, and to America 85 bales.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1896-97	1895-96
bales.	bales.	bales.
Canton	2,321	1,795
Shanghai	2,320	6,371
	4,641	8,166

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1896-97	1895-96
bales.	bales.	bales.
Canton	115	91
Shanghai	172	720
	287	1,651

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 7th July.—The market is weaker and a decline in prices has to be reported. Quotations for Formosa are \$36.50 to \$37.00. During the past week sales have been 100 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 7th July.—The market is weak again and prices are falling. Following are the quotations:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.19 to 7.22 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.57 to 6.59 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.48 to 4.51 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.30 to 4.33 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.12 to 7.13 "
do. " 2, White...	6.45 to 6.48 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.40 to 4.42 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.25 to 4.27 "
Soochow Sugar Candy	10.80 to 10.82 "
Shekloong	9.34 to 9.37 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The German steamer *Gerda*, Hongkong to Port said, 27th June, took:—14 cases Bamboo Fans; Sfr Marsilles:—10 cases Aniseed Oil; for Havre:

—516 rolls Matting, 400 packages Tea, 100 cases Camphor, 5 cases Bristles, 10 cases Hair, 14 cases Staraniseed, 12 cases Bamboo Baskets, 14 cases Chinaware, 5 cases Feathers, 29 bales Canes, 8 cases Lanterns, 1 case Sundries, 25 bales Bamboovare, and 20 cases Paper; for Havre option Hamburg:—25 cases Paper, 25 bales Canes, 150 boxes Camphor, 9 bales Hair, 1 case Earthenware, and 15 cases Blackwoodware; for Havre option Hamburg option London:—114 cases Camphor, and 138 cases Bristles; for Havre option Hamburg option London option Antwerp:—97 cases Bristles, and 239 bales Feathers; for Hamburg:—10 cases Vermilion, 111 bales Rattan Shavings, 26 packages Crackers, 3,925 packages Tea, 442 packages Canes, 95 cases Bristles, 8 cases Chinaware, 8 bales Bamboo, 100 bales Galangal, 642 bales Feathers, 68 rolls Matting, 3 cases China Ink, 15 cases Bamboo Split, 80 cases Cartridges, and 20 packages Sundries; for Hamburg option London:—31 cases Bristles, and 10 bales Teinglees; for Bremen:—50 packages Tea; for Antwerp:—68 bales Feathers; for London:—20 cases Bristles, and 100 boxes Bamboo Shavings.

The P. & O. steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind*, Hongkong to London, 2nd July, took:—200 cases Cassia Buds, 43 cases Chinaware, 5 cases Blackwoodware, 4 cases Silk Piece Goods, 170 bales Raw Silk, 8 cases Persian Opium, 2 cases Gong and Lacqueredware, and 1,439 boxes Tea (18,419 lbs. Congou, 16,809 lbs. Scented Caper); for Manchester:—10 bales Waste Silk; for Gibraltar:—6 cases Chinaware, and 1 case Curios; for France:—784 bales Raw Silk, and 67 packages Tea; for Milan:—40 bales Raw Silk.

The American ship *T. F. Oakes*, Hongkong to New York, 4th July, took:—70 cases Paper, 100 bales Rattanware, 500 cases Fans, 800 bales Cassia Ligna, 5,250 packages Fire Crackers, 9,601 rolls Matting, and 94 packages Merchandise. From Northern Ports:—50 bales Rush-hats, 92 bales Hides, 200 bales Gallants, 719 bales Wool, and 2,967 bales Strawbraid.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 7th July.—Bengal.—The market has continued steady during the past week. Rates have fluctuated slightly, but close firm at the same figures as those last reported, viz., \$710 for New Patna, \$725 for Old Patna, \$727 1/2 for New Benares, and \$735 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—There has been an average amount of business in this drug without any change in quotations, which stand as under:—

New	740 with allance of 1 1/2 to 3 cts.
Old (2 1/2 yrs.)	\$750 " 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 "
" (5/7 ")	\$770 " 0 to 2 "
" (8/10 ")	\$780 " 1/2 to 2 "

Persian.—The market has ruled dull, closing at \$570 to \$600 for Oily and \$570 to \$645 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—
New Patna 1,950 chests. || Old Patna | 340 " |
New Benares	160 "
Old Benares	40 "
Malwa	200 "
Persian	850 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
July 1	710	735	727 1/2	740	740	750/780
July 2	705	720	722 1/2	730	740	750/780
July 3	703 1/2	718 1/2	722 1/2	730	740	750/780
July 4	702 1/2	720	722 1/2	730	740	750/780
July 5	705	720	722 1/2	730	740	750/780
July 6	707 1/2	722 1/2	722 1/2	730	740	750/780

RICE.

HONGKONG, 7th July.—The weakness still continues and prices have a downward tendency. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.18 to 2.15
" Round, good quality	2.40 to 2.42
" Long	2.54 to 2.57
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.30 to 2.33
" Garden, " No. 1	2.65 to 2.67
" White	2.95 to 2.98
" Fine Cargo	3.22 to 3.25

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 7th July.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—55 bales No. 6 at \$65.50, to \$66.60 bales No. 8

at \$70.50, 545-bales No. 10 at \$71 to \$77, 705 bales No. 12 at \$77 to \$79.50, 480 bales No. 16 at \$82 to \$90, 595 bales No. 20 at \$88 to \$94. White Shirtings.—1,000 pieces 1 at \$2.80, 500 pieces Green Stag at \$3.25, 1,500 pieces Fox and Duck at \$5.10. T-Cloths.—750 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.80, 500 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Hunter and Stag at \$3. METALS:—Iron.—600 bundles Nail Rods No. 1/6 Belgian at \$3.15. Tin.—200 bales Fongchai at \$33.15, 200 Tin Plates at \$5.05, 200 slabs Siam at \$32.80. Quicksilver.—30 flasks at \$100.

COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	\$64.00 to \$62.50
English—Nos. 16 to 24	104.00 to 108.00
" 22 to 24	109.00 to 112.00
" 28 to 32	114.00 to 119.00
" 38 to 42	124.00 to 131.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs.	1.85 to 2.05
8 1/2 lbs.	2.20 to 2.10
9 to 10 lbs.	3.20 to 4.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.30 to 2.50
58 to 60 "	2.65 to 3.25
64 to 66 "	3.30 to 3.75
Fine	4.05 to 6.90
Book-folds.	3.20 to 5.40
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.60 to 1.25
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs. (32 ")	1.80 to 2.35
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.60 to 1.75
7lbs. (32 ")	2.15 to 2.40
8 to 8 1/2 lbs. (36 in.)	2.35 to 3.05
Drills, English—40 yds, 18 1/2 to 14lbs.	3.26 to 4.30

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 5lbs.	1.80 to 3.50
Brocades—Dyed	3.75 to 4.50
Damasks	0.12 to 0.15
Chintzes—Assorted	0.07 to 0.10
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.21 to 0.23
Velveteens—18 in.	0.16 to 0.20
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.40 to 0.85

WOOLLENS

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.60 to 0.95
German	1.00 to 1.15
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	1.25 to 3.50
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.90 to 8.00
Assorted	7.00 to 8.10
Camlets—Assorted	13.00 to 27.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	10.00 to 18.00
Orleans—Plain	3.00 to 3.60
Blankets—8 to 12lbs.	4.20 to 8.40

METALS

Iron—Nail Rod	3.15 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar ...	3.00 to —
Swedish Bar	4.75 to 4.80
Small Round Rod	3.55 to —
Hoop	4.50 to —
Old Wire Rope	3.00 to —
Lead, Australian	6.70 to —

Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/28 oz.	26.00 to —
Vivian's, 16/32 oz.	25.00 to —
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.	25.50 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	24.75 to —
Tin	35.50 to 35.75
Tin-Plates	5.00 to —
Steel	4.25 to —
Sundries	per picul
Quicksilver	101.00 to —
Window Glass	3.35 to —
Kerosene Oil	1.92 to —

SHANGHAI, 2nd July.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade report).—The lull in the market, reported in our last circular, has continued, and the current week, taken altogether, has been a very quiet one. The general feeling, however, has in no way changed and the market is still in a very healthy condition and shows no signs of weakness, although business, especially clearances, has been much interfered with by the continuous downpour of rain. The amount of business published appears small, but it does not represent the week's transactions, as several lines of Heavy Shirtings, Fine White

Shirtings, English Shirtings and Drills have been booked, both from spot cargo and for arrival, of which we are unable to give particulars. The Tientsin and Newchwang dealers continue to be the chief operators and are buyers of any suitable cargo offering, and in cases where the available supply is short they are willing to buy for arrival. It is reported that the Korean merchants have again been buyers of Heavy Shirtings, but from the other dependencies we have nothing new to report. There has been a good revival in demand for Woollens and a large business has been done locally and for forward delivery. There has also been a good many transactions, estimated at 2,000 cases, among Chinese in Cotton Flannels and the prices, as reported to us, at which the sales were made, may be of interest to those connected with the business. Indian Head and Blue Lion Tls. 2.97½, Two Bats Tls. 3.00, Crown Q Tls. 3.20, Crown P Tls. 3.30, Railway Tls. 4.10, and Three Deershead Tls. 4.40.

Metals.—(From Mr. Alex. Biefeld's report).—3rd July.—Business gets apparently quieter week by week; and since my last no transactions are reported in Metals beyond one or two sales of small lots from stock and contracts for about 1,000 casks Iron Wire Nos. 11/25 "arrive." Nailrods are not enquired for "to arrive." Locally values are improving slightly, but deliveries are slow owing to the high rates of interest still charged by the native banks.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 7th July.—We have not any business of importance to report, but the market has ruled fairly active and rates steady.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have continued neglected with sellers at 186 and 185 per cent. prem., and no buyers. At 182 to 183 per cent. prem. buyers would probably come in the market, so we consider it advisable to quote the buying rate of 182 per cent. prem. instead of the indefinite one of 185 per cent. sellers. It of course does not follow that shares are obtainable at the low rate, but there are no buyers over it at the moment. Nationals remain on offer at \$29 without finding buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders continue at \$79 with small sales and sellers. Cantons, Unions, and North Chinas have all been offered at quotations during the week and small sales have resulted. Yangtszes have improved in the North to \$150 with sales, and Straits have declined to \$27½ with sales.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Both Hongkongs and Chinas have ruled quiet with small sales at \$336 and \$96½ and \$96 respectively, closing with sellers at quotations.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao continue completely neglected at \$34 and we have no sales to report. Indo-Chinas with shares offering from Shanghai and the Coast Ports have further declined to \$56½ ex div. after small sales at \$58, \$57, and \$56½; market closes quiet at last rate. China and Manilas have been quieter, a small lot on offer at \$74 having failed to find a buyer; at \$73½, however, buyers cannot be accommodated. Douglasses, after touching \$65, declined to \$64½, closing with sales and sellers. China Mutuals are still unsaleable at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars, after a long period of nominal rates, changed hands in the early part of the week at \$110, and later at \$111; at time of writing shares are still in small demand at the latter rate. Luzons have changed hands at \$67½ and \$68, closing steady at latter rate.

MINING.—Punjoms, after receipt of the news of the June clean up (600 oz. smelted gold) hardened a little, and changed hands at \$14½, \$14½, and \$15; at time of writing the market is weaker, with sellers at \$14½, owing chiefly to the information received from the mines that the cyanide process will not be able to be carried on for part of the month on account of the supply of chemicals having run short. Raubs have changed hands at \$5.25 and \$5.35, closing steady to strong. Balmorals are enquired for, and small sales have been effected at \$2.50 with firm offers for telegraphing; however, it is probable shares could be obtained at the rate. Jelebus have declined to \$3, after further sales at \$3.10. Charbonnages stock has been dealt in to a small extent at \$80.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, with all June settlement shares taken off the market, have ruled much firmer, and sales have been effected at 184, 185, 185½, and 186 per cent. prem., and at equivalent rates for August and September; at time of writing shares are wanted at 186 cash, but none seem to be obtainable. Kowloon Wharves have changed hands at \$51½ and \$51, shares being still wanted at the latter rate. Wanchais are neglected with no business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have continued in request, resulting in further sales at \$73. Hotels have further declined to \$23, after small sales at \$24. West Points have found buyers at \$18, and Humphreys at \$9.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have changed hands at \$17, Watsons at \$12½, and Browns at \$7. Fenwicks have been on offer at \$27½ without finding buyers and \$27 would probably be accepted. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follows:

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	182 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$29, sellers
Founders Shares...	£1	\$110, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	15s.	\$7, sellers
Brown & Co., H. G. ...	\$50	\$6, sales
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$5
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$111, buyers
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$0.50 sales
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$27, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$17, buyers
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$7
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$96
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$23, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$103
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$51, sales & buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$126, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	180 p. ct. prem. =
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$200
China Fire	\$50	\$96, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$79, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$336, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 200
Straits	\$20	\$27½, sales
Union	\$25	\$237½, sal. & sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$150, buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$73, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9, sellers
Kowloon Land & B. ...	\$30	\$18, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$68, sales & buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$80, sales
Jelebu	\$5	\$3, sales
New Balmoral	\$3	\$2.50, buyers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$3, sellers
Do. B. ...	\$2½	\$4, sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$14½, sales
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3.70, sales
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$5.35, sales
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$74
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£3, sellers
Do. Preference...	£10	£8.10, sales & sellers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$64½, sales & sellers
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$34, sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$56½, sales & sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$45
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12.50, sal. & buyers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 3rd July.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report).—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—The market was drooping until the 30th when shares were placed at 188 per cent. premium, for delivery on the 31st current. Next day shares were forced off at 182 per cent. premium, and a sale was made yesterday at 185, which we quote as the closing rate. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co.—Shares have changed hands at Tls. 48 cash, Tls. 49 for July, and Tls. 47½ for August. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares were sold to Hongkong at \$34, for delivery on the 15th and 31st current. Docks.—Boyd & Co. shares are wanted, and S. C. Farnham & Co. shares are offering.

Marine Insurance.—China Traders' shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$78½, and from local holders at \$79. North Chinas changed hands at Tls. 195. An extensive business was done in Yangtszes at \$145 to 150 cash, \$147½ for August, and \$155 to \$157½ for September. The market closes strong with buyers for cash. Straits have been sold at \$28 and \$27 to Hongkong, and \$27½ to \$27 locally for cash, \$27 for the 31st current, and \$29 and \$27 for 31st August. We quote \$26.75 as the closing rate, with sellers. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs are unchanged. Chinas have been placed at \$95. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been placed at Tls. 117½. The new issue of 399 shares has been made, and the capital of the Co. now consists of 20,000 shares of Tls. 100 each, of which 15,000 are issued. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares have changed hands at Tls. 201 and Tls. 202½. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were sold at Tls. 45 cash, and Tls. 44 for delivery on the 31st current. China Sugar Refining shares have been placed at \$108 for July and \$110 for August. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares have been sold at Tls. 80 cum dividend on Tls. 30. Industrial.—Shares in Major Brothers were placed at Tls. 44. Other stocks are unchanged. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Waterworks shares changed hands at Tls. 256. A large business was done in Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 90 cash, and Tls. 95 and Tls. 94 for 31st August. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 650 cash, and Tls. 610 for the 31st current. Hall & Holtz shares were sold at \$32, and shares in J. Llewellyn & Co. at \$50. Loans.—Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Debentures were placed at Tls. 110, plus the accrued interest.

Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. —\$356½.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$29.
National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$115.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, pref. shares.—Nominal.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, ordinary shares.—Nominal.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, deferred shares.—£2.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 42.
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. pref. shares.—£8.50.
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. ord. shares.—£3 1s. 6d.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. —\$33½.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$62½.
Rovd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 207.50.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 210.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$348½.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$79.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 195.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$230.
Yangtze Insur. Assocn., Ltd.—\$150.
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$200.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$26½.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$331½.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$95.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 117½.
Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 55.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$54.
Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 3½.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$16.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$3.90.
Jelebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$3.30.
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$5½.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 210.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 115.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 202½.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 185.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 44.
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$107½.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$65½.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (fully paid). —Tls. 81.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (Tls. 30 paid). —Tls. 6½.
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$71½.
Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$19.
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$9½.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 44½.
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 87½.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 97½.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 400.
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 155.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 260.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 256.
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 90.

Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 610.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders.
—Nominal.
Shanghai Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 66.
J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$50.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$32.
A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$12½.
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$8.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$7.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS TUESDAY, 7th July. EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2 2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2 2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2 2½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2 2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2 2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2 2½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.77
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.81½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.24
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	53½
Credits, 60 days' sight	54½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	186½
Bank, on demand	187
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	186½
Bank, on demand	187
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	¾ pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	16% pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	¾ pm.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	8.93
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	47.00

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 3rd July (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—During the fortnight under review there has been no change in rates of freight home-ward, nor is there likely to be for some time to come. Cargo for Europe is still very scarce, and departing vessels have received very poor support, while for America everything remains in its recent dull state, and to make matters worse, we are credibly informed that the Piquet market will not open for at least five weeks; this must be extremely disappointing to shipowners, as they look in this direction for at least moderate cargoes. Rates of freight are:—London by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 40s.; Northern Continental ports, general cargo 37s. 6d.; waste silk 40s.; tea 40s.; New York, general cargo 40s.; tea 40s.; New York via London, general cargo 40s.; tea 45s.; Boston, general cargo 45s.; tea 50s.; Philadelphia, general cargo 45s.; tea 50s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London by Shell Line, general cargo 35s. less 10 per cent.; Hamburg, general cargo 31s. 6d. net; New York, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent. Havre direct, general cargo 32s. 6d. net. Genoa, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 35s. net. Marseilles, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 32s. 6d. net. 42s. 6d. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York by sail, 20s. nominal; New York by Pacific Lines, 1½ gold cents per lb. Coast rates are:—Mojito to Shanghai \$1.10 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.10 per ton coal. No disengaged vessel in port.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Aden (str.), Palawan (str.), Monmouthshire (str.), Achilles (str.), Peking (str.), Benlawers (str.), Peshawar (str.).
For HAVRE.—Thekla (str.).
For Marseilles.—Kagashima Maru (str.). Maria Rickmers (str.).
For BREMEN.—Preussen (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).
For HONOLULU.—Chittagong (str.).
For VICTORIA.—Victoria (str.), Almore (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Coptic (str.), Peru (str.), Socotra (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Com. T. H. Allen, T. F. Oakes, Lucille, Manuel Llaguno, Hankow (str.), Charles E. Moody.
For BALTIMORE.—Isaac Reed.
For AUSTRALIA.—Sikh (str.), Australian (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL. HONGKONG.

July—	
2, Doris, German str., from Canton.	
2, Tientsin, British str., from Canton.	
2, Nanyang, German str., from Canton.	
2, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.	
2, Guthrie, British str., from Foochow.	
2, Phra Chom Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.	
2, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.	
2, Falkenburg, German str., from Hongay.	
2, Sikh, British str., from Kobe.	
3, Chintung, Chinese str., from Canton.	
3, Oslo, Norw. str., from Anping.	
3, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.	
3, Sutlej, British str., from Barry.	
3, Chas. E. Moody, Amr. ship, from Port Los Angeles.	
4, Mathilde, German str., from Pakhoi.	
4, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.	
4, Cheangchow, British str., from Penang.	
4, Chacma, Norw. bark, from Albany.	
4, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.	
4, Bygdo, Norw. str., from Chefoo.	
4, Carmarthenshire, British str., from Amoy.	
4, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.	
4, St. Louis, French str., from Canton.	
4, Petrarch, German str., from Saigon.	
4, Tanverd, Norw. str., from Moji.	
5, Hankow, British str., from Amoy.	
5, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
5, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.	
5, Deuteros, German str., from Saigon.	
5, Fuping, Chinese str., from Chefoo.	
5, Gisela, Austrian str., from Kobe.	
5, Progress, German str., from Tournon.	
5, Taicheong, German str., from Aroe Bay.	
5, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.	
5, Alderley, British str., from Bangkok.	
6, Evandale, British str., from Kutchinotzu.	
6, Myrmidon, British str., from Liverpool.	
6, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.	
6, Salazie, French str., from Marseilles.	
6, Wuottan, German str., from Saigon.	
6, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.	
6, Merionethshire, Brit. str., from London.	
6, Agamemnon, British str., from Foochow.	
6, Hong Leong, Brit. str., from Singapore.	
7, Aden, British str., from Yokohama.	
7, Oceanien, French str., from Shanghai.	
7, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.	
7, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.	
7, Lennox, British str., from New York.	
7, Wosang, British str., from Newchwang.	

July—	
2, St. Louis, French str., for Canton.	
2, Independent, German str., for Chefoo.	
2, Fooksang, British str., for Canton.	
2, Harland, British ship for Portland.	
2, Kaiser-i-Hind, British str., for Europe.	
2, Brunhilde, German str., for Chefoo.	
2, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.	
2, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.	
2, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.	
2, Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.	
3, Doris, German str., for Chefoo.	
3, Changsha, British str., for Kobe.	
3, Ching Ping, Chinese str., for Chefoo.	
3, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.	
3, Preussen, German str., for Shanghai.	
3, Guthrie, British str., for Sydney.	
3, Columbus, German ship, for Port Blakely.	
3, Ancona, British str., for Yokohama.	
3, Feiching, British str., for Shanghai.	
3, Letimbro, Italian str., for Bombay.	
3, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.	
4, Nanyang, German str., for Shanghai.	
4, Nord, Norw. str., for Bangkok.	
4, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.	
5, Belgic, British str., for San Francisco.	
5, Carmarthenshire, British str., for London.	
5, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.	
5, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.	
5, Oslo, Norw. str., for Bangkok.	
5, Thales, British str., for Swatow.	
5, T. F. Oakes, Amr. ship, for N. York.	
5, Undaunted, British str., for Nagasaki.	
6, Bygdo, Norw. str., for Canton.	
6, Catherine Apcar, British str., for Calcutta.	
6, Cheangchow, British str., for Swatow.	
6, Chintung, British str., for Shanghai.	
6, Fuping, Chinese str., for Canton.	
6, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.	
6, Taisang, British str., for Canton.	

7, Gisela, Austrian str., for Trieste.	
7, China, German str., for Saigon.	
7, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.	
7, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.	
7, Salazie, French str., for Shanghai.	
7, Azamor, British str., for Nagasaki.	
7, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Canton.	
7, Phra Chom Klao, British str., for Bangkok.	
7, Tanverd, Norw. str., for Canton.	
7, Agamemnon, British str., for London.	
7, Fooksang, British str., for Swatow.	
7, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.	
7, Kweiyang, British str., for Swatow.	
7, Myrmidon, British str., for Shanghai.	
7, Strathallan, British str., for Amoy.	

PASSENGER LIST. ARRIVED.

Per Haimun, str., from Amoy, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Capt. Scharfe, Mr. Malcampo, Rev. and Mrs. Gibson.
Per Memnon, str., from Sandakan—Messrs. Orton, Roberts, and Father Allard.
Per Guthrie, str., from Foochow—Messrs. S. Stephens and J. McKechnie.
Per Cheangchow, str., from Penang, &c.—Miss Davis, and 800 Chinese.
Per Myrmidon, str., from Liverpool, &c.—Mrs. Macdonald and child.
Per Salazie, str., from Marseilles, &c., for Hongkong—Messrs. Woolen, Went, and Baker, Misses Eyre and Lilla Herz. For Shanghai—Messrs. René d'Anjou, Durand, Lindberg, Bohnstedt, and Brume, Mr. and Mrs. Tabbah Héritte and two children. For Japan—Messrs. Lassneuv, Mikkas, Bennevit, Alias and child, Capt. Anderson, Miss Bernheim.
Per Oceanien, str., from Shanghai—Messrs. Friesland, Pery, Lee Dillon, Luna, Francisco, O. Farrell, Ribes, Haffenden, M. Wessalago, Nicolawesky, Loup, Smirnov, Gal. Teraoutchi, Von Shirach, Marquet, Minobe, and Brugnot, Mr. and Mrs. Mertens, Col. and Mrs. Fetterstonhough, Col. and Mrs. Norton, Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Patrick, Mrs. Richter, Mrs. Fabre, and Mrs. Murray Robertson.

DEPARTED.

Per Empress of India, str., for Amoy—Dr. Yersin. For Shanghai—Messrs. J. F. Duff and D. Fair. For Nagasaki—Capt. A. Tillett, Messrs. D. Drill, W. Kaktin. For Kobe—Messrs. R. Fuhrmann, R. Metz, Carl, and Mills. For Yokohama—Mr. A. W. Schellhass, Lieut. Holland. For Montreal—Miss Holmes. For Ottawa—Mr. Allen. For New York—Mrs. Lem Wah and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Fenollosa. For London—Messrs. C. J. Currie, J. H. Phelps, Barnes, E. R. Morris, K. Anstruther, and Lieut.-Col. H. Hay. From Kobe for London—Mr. P. Clark. From Yokohama—Mr. Scrimgeour.
Per Kaiser-i-Hind, str., from Shanghai for London—Mr. A. J. Reeks. From Japan for Penang—Captain Pritchard. From London via Bombay—Mr. J. Kerr Ball. From Hongkong for Colombo—Messrs. C. W. Arnould, Joseph Chaw, and Miss Finney. For Gibraltar—Rev. J. Gonçalves. For Marseilles—Mr. T. B. Blow. For Brindisi—Mr. J. W. Berry. For London—Mr. and Mrs. A. Baird.
Per Hohenzollern, str., from Genoa for Yokohama—Messrs. A. Bianche, G. Menze, and R. Schmidt Scharff. From Hongkong—Mr. O. Kleinschmidt, Mrs. B. B. Harker and child, Mr. J. Gomes. From Singapore for Nagasaki—Messrs. Okewasan and Olisan.
Per Guthrie, str., for Sydney—Mrs. Green, Miss Reynolds, Miss Scott, Miss Brownlow, Mrs. Henderson, Messrs. Brandenburg, Friend, Parker, McKechnie, Miss Thurnam, and Miss Irwin.
Per Preussen, str., for Shanghai from Naples—Messrs. Vogel and Quass. From Southampton—Mrs. McInnes and family, Mr. J. F. C. Jobson. From Genoa—Mr. A. Bianche, Mrs. Rehders.
Per Hanoi, str., for Hoihow—Dr. McClelland and family, Mr. Berthoin, Mrs. M. Carneiro. For Haiphong—Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Jack and child.
Per Belgic, str., for Kobe—Mr. Plummer. For Yokohama—Mr. Geo. Wheeler, Col. and Madame The O'Gorman, and Mrs. Edey. For Honolulu—Mr. Justin D'hullo. For San Francisco—Mr. D. G. Bruce, Mr. Jusberg. For Boston—Capt. Gerrieh.